



Contact:

The Open Group – Media Relations: Eva Kostelkova, +1 415-374-8280,  
[e.kostelkova@opengroup.org](mailto:e.kostelkova@opengroup.org)

The Open Group’s Grid Enterprise Services Forum: John (Jay) Spaulding, +1 339-219-3030, [j.spaulding@opengroup.org](mailto:j.spaulding@opengroup.org)

North American Ipv6 Task Force: Jim Bound, [Jim.bound@hp.com](mailto:Jim.bound@hp.com)

Ipv6 Forum: Latif Ladid, [latif.ladid@village.uunet.lu](mailto:latif.ladid@village.uunet.lu)

## **IPv6 Forum & The Open Group To Cooperate On Deploying An Industry-wide IPv6 Product Standard**

**Burlington, MA/New Hampshire/Luxembourg, July 15, 2005** – The IPv6 Forum and The Open Group have announced a cooperative effort to generate consensus between governments and industry, and deploy a global industry-wide IPv6 product standard and formal certification program.

The program is designed to accelerate the adoption of IPv6, the “next-generation” Internet Protocol that offers new capabilities and addresses the fundamental limitations of the currently used IPv4.

This effort, in response to industry demand, was formulated by The Open Group’s Grid Enterprise Services Forum. The forum consists of vendors, integrators and end user organizations. The development of an industry based product standard and certification program will lead to the production of Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) products that can be procured “as-is” and are designed to be easily installed and to interoperate with existing system components. The end user will be able to procure IPv6 products with confidence that they meet industry standard, will interoperate, and be easy to integrate.

Both organizations have a past history of cooperative efforts. The Open Group is a general member of the IPv6 Forum, and the IPv6 Forum through their NAv6TF sub-chapter, is an active participant of The Open Group's Grid Enterprise Services Forum. Both organizations view the work of the Forum as complimentary with the work of the IPv6 Forum and the NAv6TF to promote the adoption and deployment of IPv6 technology.

“Interoperability creates genuine end-user confidence in new technologies,” stated Latif Ladid, President of the IPv6 Forum and Chair of the EU IPv6 Task Force. “The objective of the joint initiative is to encourage and facilitate the development and market availability of standards-based, interoperable products.”

"We're very pleased to be working with the IPv6 forum to help further the adoption of IPv6 by both industry and governments. By combining the technical expertise of the IPv6 forum with The Open Group's experience in industry-based certification programs, we can help the industry deploy IPv6-based components and systems with greater confidence," said David Lounsbury, Vice President, The Open Group

"The evolution of the New Internet, enabled by IPv6 to restore the end-to-end Internet model, is directly proportional to the quality of the products to support interoperability and net centricity. This alliance between The Open Group and the IPv6 Forum will expedite this evolution," said Jim Bound, CTO of the IPv6 Forum and Chair of the North American IPv6 Task Force.

“The joint effort of The Open Group and the IPv6 Forum, in concert with industry and governments, to develop consensus on a global industry-based IPv6 product standard and certification program, greatly enhances the potential of IPv6 to deliver on its future promise of enhanced functionality and ubiquity. The key to the success of this effort will be the active participation of industry and governments”, said John Spaulding, Director of The Open Group's Grid Enterprise Services Forum.

### **About the Cooperation**

The IPv6 Forum will be a participant and affiliate member of the GridES Forum acting as the IPv6 domain experts and Specification Authority for an IPv6

certification program. This includes standards development and providing domain expertise to resolve any claims of inaccuracies in test suites, ambiguities in specifications, certification problems, and conformance test failures.

The GridES Forum will provide a vendor-, acquisition- and technology- neutral setting to allow industry and governments to jointly shape the future delivery of Net-Centric services and products, including those related to the use of IPv6 components and systems.

The Open Group's GridES Forum, in cooperation with the IPv6 Forum, will create a consensus definition of the conformance requirements for IPv6 products, documented in The Open Group Product Standards, and then maintain and evolve these Product Standards over time.

The Open Group will develop, operate and act as the Certification Authority for an IPv6 certification program for these Product Standards providing the necessary administration, auditability, warranty provisions, and the support and execution under the technical oversight of the GridES Forum.

Industry and government agencies are encouraged to participate in the process of developing this industry base IPv6 product standard. A workshop will be held this July 20 and July 21 to begin the process. Further information can be found at: <http://www.opengroup.org/gesforum/>. A current agenda for this conference can be found at

<http://www.opengroup.org/gesforum/doc.tpl?CALLER=index.tpl&gdid=7784>

### **About The Open Group**

The Open Group is a vendor-neutral and technology-neutral consortium, which drives the creation of Boundaryless Information Flow™ that will enable access to integrated information within and between enterprises based on open standards and global interoperability. The Open Group works with customers, suppliers, consortia and other standard bodies. Its role is to capture, understand and address current and emerging requirements, establish policies and share best practices; to facilitate interoperability, develop consensus, and evolve and integrate specifications and open

source technologies; to offer a comprehensive set of services to enhance the operational efficiency of consortia; and to operate the industry's premier certification service. Further information on The Open Group can be found at

<http://www.opengroup.org>.

Note to Editors: Boundaryless Information Flow is a trademark of The Open Group.

### **About The IPv6 Forum**

The IPv6 Forum is a worldwide consortium of over 175 leading Internet service vendors, National Research & Education Networks (NRENs) and international ISPs. Its mission is to promote IPv6 by improving market and user awareness, creating a quality and secure New Generation Internet and allowing worldwide equitable access to knowledge and technology. The IPv6 Forum is recognized as the global domain expert on IPv6. The North American IPv6 Task Force (NAv6TF) is a sub-chapter of the IPv6 Forum dedicated to the advancement and propagation of IPv6 in the North American continent. Further information on the IPv6 Forum can be found at <http://www.ipv6forum.org/> and <http://www.nav6tf.org/>