

**Department of Telecommunications  
Telecommunication Engineering Centre  
Khurshid Lal Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi -110001  
(Convergence & Broadcasting Division)**

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No. 4-6/2021-C&B/TEC/CAS-SMS-TSTP

dated 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2022

**Subject: Record of Discussions- Open House Session with Labs, MSOs, Broadcasters and other stake-holders for Discussion on accreditation of Labs for testing of CAS (Conditional Access Systems) and SMS (Subscriber Management Systems):**

An Open House session was organised on 04.08.2022 from 02.30 pm onwards through video-conferencing under the chairmanship of Sr. DDG & Head, TEC with Labs, Multiple system operators (MSO), Broadcasters, concerned Government departments, TRAI, BIS and other stakeholders for consultation and discussion on finalisation of process for accreditation of Labs and setting of Labs for testing of CAS and SMS. Around 100 participants have attended this open house session.

**Welcome address by Sh. Rakesh Desai, Director, TEC**

1. Sh. Rakesh Desai, Director greeted and welcomed all the participants to the Open House session, He apprised the participants about the Agenda of the meeting and proceeding of the Open House Session.
2. He briefly explained the TEC test guides on CAS and SMS that were jointly released by TRAI, DOT and MIB on 15.06.2022. He further requested Sh. Avinash Agarwal, DDG (Convergence & Broadcasting), TEC to set the context and address the meeting.

**Introductory address and Setting the Context by Sh. Avinash Agarwal, DDG, TEC**

3. Sh. Agarwal, in his introductory remarks, stated that TRAI has designated TEC as a Testing and Certification Agency for Conditional Access System (CAS) and Subscriber Management System (SMS) keeping in view that deployment of standard CAS and SMS systems will prevent loss of revenue to the stakeholders as well as secure the content. He informed that TEC has accordingly prepared the Test Guides of CAS and SMS after detailed stakeholder consultations and the same were released by Chairman (TRAI), Secretary (T) and Secretary (I&B) on 15.06.2022. He presented special features of the mentioned Test Guides before the participants.
4. He mentioned that TEC had invited proposals through EoI (Expression of Interest) for accreditation of Labs for testing of CAS & SMS. He said that TEC has been receiving a lot of enquiries from designated Labs as well as from Industry partners in response. He stated that as a next step, TEC has organized this virtual Open House Session with Labs, Multiple system operators (MSOs), Broadcasters and other stakeholders to elaborate the mandatory and desired

functional requirements for CAS and SMS prescribed in test guides and to take the inputs / suggestions on finalisation of process for accreditation of Labs and setting of Labs for testing of CAS and SMS. He mentioned that MIB, TRAI and BIS are also invited for this open house session.

**Keynote address by Sh. Ritu Ranjan Mittar, Senior DDG & Head, TEC**

5. Sh. Mittar, Senior DDG & Head, TEC briefly mentioned about the core function and activities of TEC. He stated that with rapid advancements in technology, telecommunications and broadcasting are fast converging and it is becoming difficult to draw a line separating these two sectors. He highlighted that various international standards bodies have been working on developing standards for convergence of telecom and broadcasting.
6. He said that Test Guides for CAS and SMS are setting the test schedule and testing procedures based on requirements notified by TRAI and conformity of these tests will ensure non-deployment of sub-standard CAS and SMS and also improve overall customer experience.
7. He invited all the participants for fruitful and positive discussions and to give their suggestions / inputs in the matter so that testing of CAS & SMS can be initiated smoothly. He also requested designated LABs and MSOs to come forward for pilot testing of CAS and SMS in accordance with test guide's indicators so that TRAI can be apprised accordingly in this matter.
8. He wished that this open house session will be very successful and meaningful and helps the TEC in finalization of the process to designate Labs for CAS & SMS testing.

**After the keynote address by Sr DDG & Head, TEC, all the participants were requested to give their inputs / comments. Major and significant inputs / comments received from the Participants are listed as under: -**

**9. Sh. N.K.Goyal, Chairman Emeritus, Telecom Equipment Manufacturers Association of India (TEMA)**

- Industry needs to cooperate for the testing and pilot testing may be started as soon as possible.
- NABL accreditation is not desirable for CAS and SMS testing as NABL requires more time for managing the all-relevant regulations.

**10. Sh. Sanjiv kainth, CAS provider, IRDETO: -**

- Each Operator and vendor have multiple platforms, so each CAS & SMS needs to be checked w.r.to each platform.
- The Robustness of CAS & SMS can't be tested. However, only user features can be tested.
- Security aspects cannot be tested.
- The proposed testing of CAS & SMS is only feasible at site.

**11. Sh. Sanjay Jain, DEV Networks:-**

- Testing may not be feasible as CAS manufactures do not share the algorithm to the operator.
- Some operators are having equipment more than 10-15 years old, so testing of such old equipment is not possible at this stage.

**12. Sh. Raman Biala, ZEE:-**

- Standardization of the products is first required prior to testing of CAS & SMS.

**13. Sh. Sadanand Joshi, SONY Pictures:-**

- Appreciated the test guides stating that it very well defines about features and required reports.
- Ecosystem should be developed and testing needs to be started at the earliest.
- TEC may certify for conformance of CAS & SMS by testing at the site or at the Lab.

**14. Dr. Lenin Raja, V.P, AAEMT:-**

- Equipment coming from neighboring countries are not having standardization.
- Labs should prepare an ecosystem and proper arrangement for hassle-free testing.
- Support from CAS and SMS manufactures are required for proper conduct of testing.

**15. Sh. Navin Tikoo, TV18:-**

- Testing is very much essential and need of the hour.
- Pilot projects for testing of CAS and SMS need to be started and CAS providers may please come forward to offer their equipment for testing.

**16. Sh. Guru Prasad, GTPL:-**

- Declaration from CAS & SMS vendors that their systems are complaint to TEC test guides and provision of heavy penalty for violation.

**17. Col K. Yadav, Compliance International: -**

- NABL accreditation is not required in the instant case.
- Enquired about the provision of penal action by TRAI in case of violation.

**18. Sh. Rajiv Khattar, Industry Expert: -**

- NABL accreditation is not required and the same may be waived off if exists.

**19. Sh. Rajiv Sharma, Airtel: -**

- SMS and CAS are unique for each vendor/user. Hence, testing of CAS & SMS should have been conducted at site only.

**20. Sh. Kshitiz Kulshreshta, Jio:-**

- Inquired about the mandate of TRAI to MSOs / Broadcasters for mandatory testing of CAS & SMS as per TEC test guides.

**Concluding Remarks by Sh. Avinash Agarwal, DDG, TEC:-**

21. Sh. Agarwal summarised the major and relevant inputs received from the participants. He requested all the participants to go through TEC test guides and TRAI notifications designating TEC as the testing and certification agency for the CAS and SMS used in broadcasting and cable TV in India.
22. He stated that testing could be carried out at site or at Lab. He added that generally testing has been done in Lab for testing of various standards/ specifications. He requested MSOs and OEMs of CAS & SMS to come forward for pilot testing. He mentioned that TEC will appreciate such initiative from Industry for pilot testing and extend all support for the pilot testing.

**Vote of Thanks by Sh. Rakesh Desai, Director, TEC**

23. The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chairperson, DDG (C&B), TEC, Industry experts, representatives from Government departments, officers from TEC and other participants.

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