CCSDS
Advancing Spaceflight Technology
For International Collaboration

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CCSDS Overview

- CCSDS = The Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems
- For international collaboration in spaceflight, the most critical enabling technology is *communications and data systems*.
- The domain of CCSDS is *interoperability* for comm/data systems
- *Interoperability* translates to:
  - **Operations** -- flexibility, capability and access to additional resources
  - **Development** - reduced risk, development time and project costs
  - For government, industry, agencies, vendors, programs and projects
- Historically, joint missions have tight schedules right after kickoff. Standards prepared in advance are more methodically developed for long-term benefits.
- CCSDS Started in 1982 developing at the lower layers of the protocol stack. The CCSDS scope has grown to cover standards throughout the ISO communications stack, plus other Data Systems areas (architecture, archive, security, XML exchange formats, etc.)
CCSDS composition

 produc es International Voluntary Consensus Standards

 Agency-led international committee
  current ly 11 Member agencies
  currently 28 Observer Agencies
  Agencies represent 26 nations
  currently 141 Commercial Associates
  ~160-180 attendees at Spring/Fall meetings

 Also functions as an ISO Committee
  TC20/SC13 - Space Data & Info Transfer Systems

 Observer Agencies

 ASA/Austria
 BFSP/United Kingdom
 CAS/China
 CAST/China
 CLTC/China
 CSIR/South Africa
 CSIRO/Australia
 DCTA/Brazil
 DNSC/Denmark
 EUMETSAT/Europe
 EUTELSAT/Europe
 GISTDA/Thailand
 HNSC/Greece
 IKI/Russia
 ISRO/India
 KARI/Korea
 KFKI/Hungary
 MOC/Israel
 NCST/USA
 NICT/Japan
 NOAA/USA
 NSARK/Kazakhstan
 NSPO/Taipei
 SSC/Sweden
 SUPARCO/Pakistan
 TsNII Mash/Russia
 TUBITAK/Turkey
 USGS/USA

 Member Agencies

 ASI/Italy
 CNES/United States
 CNSA/Canada
 CSA/China
 DLR/Germany
 ESA/Europe
 FSA/Russia
 INPE/Brazil
 JAXA/Japan
 NASA/USA
 UKSA/UK
Thirty-four working groups (some in formative stages)
CCSDS Structure and Organization

CCSDS Secretariat

Space Assigned Numbers Authority

CCSDS Management Council (CMC)

ISO

Infrastructure providers

Liaisons

Stakeholders

Missions / Programs

CCSDS Engineering Steering Group

Spacecraft Onboard Interface Services

Systems Engineering

Space Internetworking Services

Space Link Services

Cross Support Services

Mission Ops & Info. Mgt. Services

WG’s

WG’s

WG’s

WG’s

WG’s

WG’s
CCSDS Process – Colors of Books

- **Blue Books**: Recommended Standards – Verified for Interoperable Implementations (with options specified)
- **Magenta Books**: Recommended Practices – Normative, but not for direct implementation
- **Red Books**: Drafts of Blue or Magenta books not yet approved
- **Orange Books**: Experimental – New Technology or Single-Agency
- **Green Books**: Informational, concepts, etc.
- **Yellow Books**: Technical reports, Procedures, etc.
- **Silver Books**: Historical (deprecated)
CCSDS Overview

61 Standards and Practices Currently Active

460+ missions
Blue Books: Recommended Standards

CCSDS Recommended Standards (Blue Books) define specific interfaces, technical capabilities or protocols, or provide prescriptive and/or normative definitions of interfaces, protocols, or other controlling standards such as encoding approaches. Standards must be complete, unambiguous and at a sufficient level of technical detail that they can be directly implemented and used for space mission interoperability and cross support. Standards must say very clearly, “this is how you must build something if you want it to be compliant”.

Currently 47 Books Listed

- **CCSDS 121.0-B-1**
  
  
  This Recommendation defines a source-coding data-compression algorithm and specifies how data compressed using the algorithm are inserted into source packets for retrieval and decoding. This document has been reconfirmed by the CCSDS Management Council through November 2011. The current version of this document contains all updates through Technical Corrigendum 2, dated September 2007.
  
  ISO Number: 15887

- **CCSDS 121.0-B-1 Cor. 1**
  
  **Technical Corrigendum 1 to CCSDS 121.0-B-1, Issued May 1997.** Blue Book. Issue 1 Cor. 1. November 2006.
  
  This Technical Corrigendum documents changes to CCSDS 121.0-B-1, Lossless Data Compression (Blue Book, Issue 1, May 1997)

- **CCSDS 121.0-B-1 Cor. 2**
  
  **Technical Corrigendum 2 to CCSDS 121.0-B-1, Issued May 1997.** Blue Book. Issue 1 Cor. 2. September 2007.
  
  This Technical Corrigendum documents changes to CCSDS 121.0-B-1, Lossless Data Compression (Blue Book, Issue 1, May 1997)

- **CCSDS 122.0-B-1**
  
  
  This Recommended Standard defines an image-data compression algorithm applicable to digital data from payload instruments and specifies means to control compression rate and how...
Access to CCSDS Technical WG info:
www.ccsds.org > CWE
Sampling of Technical Topics (Cont.)

Topics to be discussed:
- DTN WG
- AMS WG
- Multi/Hyperspectral Data Compression
- Coding and Synch
- RF & Modulation
- Onboard Wireless
- Spacecraft Monitor & Control
- Navigation WG
- Security WG

New work items briefly mentioned
- Optical Coding and Modulation SIG
- Planetary Comm BOF
- Time Correl/Sync BOF
- Voice/Video WGs
Delay Tolerant Networking

✦ The DTN Working Group is laying the foundation for the Solar System Internetwork (SSI)
  ✦ Provides automated routing (like current Internet), but compared to current IP technology:
    ✦ Adds Delay tolerance for deep space delays
    ✦ Delivers more data, faster in disrupted near-earth environment

✦ Past Progress and Current Work
  ✦ Current green book almost finalized. Establishes Rationale, Develops Scenarios, explores candidate technologies
  ✦ In work: DTN Bundle Protocol (BP) specification and Licklider Transport Protocol (LTP).

✦ Future work – Complete Solar System Internetwork (SSI) infrastructure with
  ✦ Network Management
  ✦ Naming/Numbering conventions
  ✦ Contact Graph Routing
  ✦ File Delivery Protocol (CFDP)
Delay Tolerant Networking (cont.)

- DTN efforts use terrestrial internet work of the IRTF as a “springboard” for the Solar System Internetwork

- Great example of strategy for “paced” development of Space Communications infrastructure following terrestrial and commercial technology development

- Adopt/Adapt/Develop strategy
Asynchronous Message Service (AMS)

✔ The AMS Working Group is standardizing messaging middleware for flight mission communications.

✔ AMS provides “message bus” functionality for flight missions, including both publish/subscribe and client/server interaction models.

✔ Unlike JMS or DDS, AMS is *a wire protocol rather than a service spec*
  ✷ Conformant implementations are interoperable, no gateways needed.

✔ Unlike AMQP, AMS is *peer-to-peer, not reliant on a message broker*
  ✷ High performance, fault tolerant.

✔ Unlike RTPS, AMS is *designed to run efficiently over space links*
  ✷ Uses a built-in delay-tolerant and disruption-tolerant multicast tree.

✔ Overall benefit: Loosely-coupled, simplified interfaces
  ✷ Overall reduction in system complexity

✔ Past Progress and Current Work
  ✷ Final Red Book has passed Agency review, but more interoperability testing is needed before Blue Book is published.

✔ Reference implementation is available as open source, included in JPL’s “ION” software distribution at: [http://www.openchannelfoundation.org/projects/ION/](http://www.openchannelfoundation.org/projects/ION/)
The Multispectral & Hyperspectral Data Compression (MHDC) and previous Data Compression (DC) working groups

- Develop standards for lossy and lossless data compression, primarily for imagery
- Pay close attention to hardware implementation complexity – focus is spacecraft onboard compression

Past Progress and Current Work

- 121 Blue Book (1997): general-purpose lossless compressor based on Rice coding, implementation > 25 missions
- 122 Blue Book (2005): lossy and lossless 2D image compression using advanced wavelet-based techniques, applicable to frame sensors and push-broom sensors, implementation > 3 missions
- 123 Blue Book (in progress): lossless compression for multispectral and hyperspectral (i.e., 3D) image compression

Future work

- Lossy compression for multispectral and hyperspectral imagers

Hyperspectral imagers can produce enormous data volumes
The RF & Mod and Coding & Sync Working Groups are laying the foundation for the future missions operating at Ka band frequencies.

Ka band is the answer to the increasing demand in bandwidth but is very sensitive to atmospheric conditions.

- For deep space, Earth station diversity permits the use of conventional fixed Coding and Modulation.
- In disrupted near-earth environment, Variable/Adaptive Coding & Modulation (VCM & ACM) deliver more data, faster.
- VCM/ACM -- physical layer complement to Network layer DTN.

Amplitude Phase Shift Keying modulations (8/16/32APSK) and advanced coding (SCCC, LDPC) for efficiently supporting fixed and variable/adaptive CodMod over satellite nonlinear channels.

Past Progress and Current Work


Future work: Publication of the two Blue Books and the Magenta Book addressing coding and modulation for Ka band links and related topics.
Coding & Modulation for Ka Band

- Conclusion: State-of-the-art coding and modulation techniques will be offered by CCSDS for future space missions at Ka band (26 GHz, 32 GHz)
Onboard Wireless Working Group

✦ Overview of Onboard Wireless activity
  ✦ Provides standards-based resources to achieve interoperable wireless network communication:
    ✷ Wireless communications is an enabling technology for both manned and unmanned spacecraft Delivers more data, faster in disrupted near-earth environment

✦ Past Progress
  ✦ Current Green Book completing publication process
    ✷ Examines the possibilities and advantages of the application of wireless communications technology to space missions

✦ Current / Future Work
  ✦ Magenta Book: *RFID-Based Inventory Management Systems*
    ✷ Improve ground system and spaceflight vehicle inventory tracking & visibility
  ✦ Magenta Book: *Low Data-Rate Wireless Communications for Spacecraft Monitoring and Control*
    ✷ targeted towards low data-rate and low-power applications transmitting in the 850 MHz – 950 MHz and 2.45 GHz (ISM) radio frequency band
Emphasis is on standardizing certain functions that are in every missions -- *Application level*

Capitalizes on industry approach of a SOA

- SOA = Service Oriented Architecture

Need for functions to be location transparent, so service interface in many locations should be standard

Define providers and consumers of service

- Information transferred between the two contains semantics

Result: Plug-in architecture.

- Components plug into services
- Provides application portability as well as interoperability

Initial focus of effort: Ground MCCs. Eventually will include flight systems that provide services
Distributable MO Functions

- M&C (Status, Control)
- Automation (Procedures, Timelines)
- Planning (Tasks, Goals)
- Mission Data (Products)
- Flight Dynamics (Orbit, Attitude)
- On-board Software

Mission Operations Services:
- Organisational Boundaries
- Functional Boundaries
- System Boundaries
- Long-Term Data Persistence
Service-Oriented Architecture: Plug-in Components

Components

Services

MO Framework
MO Service Deployment Options
Mission Ops Services reside between the comm system and the applications

GROUND

Mission Operations Services

Application  Application  Application

Space Link Services (SLS, SIS, AMS, Other)

On-board Services (SOIS)

SPACE

Ground Services (AMQP, SOAP, CORBA)
MO Service Layering

Application Layer
Consumer/Provider

MO Services Layer
Common Services
Message Abstraction Layer
Common Object Model
Messaging Abstraction Layer
Functional Services
Transport Layer
Messaging Technology

Mapping to implementation language
Abstract service specification defined in terms of the COM & MAL
Generic service specification defined in terms of the MAL
Abstract messaging infrastructure
Mapping of the MAL to encoding and transport

Common Services
Directory, Login, ...

Common Object Model
Identify, Definition, Occurrence, Status

Messaging Abstraction Layer
Generic Interaction Patterns, Access Control, Quality of Service

Functional Services
Core, Automation, Scheduling, Time, ...

MO Services
Consumer/Provider

Messaging Technology

Orchestrating MO Services: Mission Planning Example
The Navigation Working Group is chartered to develop standards covering spacecraft orbits, attitudes, and tracking.

Past Progress and Current Work

- Orbit Data Messages (version 2.0 published 11/2009)
  - Three standard message formats for exchanging orbit descriptions
    - Orbit Parameter Message (OPM) is a state vector (position and velocity at epoch; must be propagated)
    - Orbit Mean Elements Message (OMM) is an orbit state (mean Keplerian elements; must be propagated)
    - Orbit Ephemeris Message (OEM) is an ephemeris (position and velocity at multiple epochs; must be interpolated)

- Tracking Data Message (version 1.0 published 11/2007)
  - Message format for exchanging tracking data; supports widely used tracking data types: Doppler, range, angle, ΔDOR, ancillary information

- Attitude Data Messages (version 1.0 published 05/2008)
  - Two message formats for exchanging spacecraft attitude descriptions
    - Attitude Parameter Message (APM) is an attitude state at epoch, must be propagated
    - Attitude Ephemeris Message (AEM) a series of attitude states at multiple epochs, allows modelling of any number of torques, must be interpolated

- Navigation Green Book (version 3.0 published 05/2010)
  - Contains technical background related to the Nav WG Recommendations

Future work – Addressing gaps in existing standardization

- Planned are several messages relating to spacecraft perturbations, pointing requests, conjunction assessment, orbital events, maneuver planning/tracking
The CCSDS Security Working Group:
- Develops CCSDS security recommendations (standards)
- Develops security guides and informative documents
- Provides security advice and guidance to CCSDS working group for security factors and practices in other CCSDS standards.

Documents developed:
- Green Book on use of security in CCSDS
- CCSDS Security Architecture
- Algorithm trade studies for encryption and authentication
- System interconnection guide
- Threat guide

On-going work:
- Encryption and authentication algorithm standard
- Key management guide and standard
- Mission planner’s security guide
- Network layer security profile
- Information security glossary
Other New Work Areas

- **Optical Coding and Modulation BOF**
  - Considering whether it is time for an Optical Comm standard
  - Would support Mars-Earth, LEO-GEO, LEO DTE scenarios
  - Interesting work in optical coding and modulation for interoperability

- **Planetary Communications BOF**
  - Will address comm on planetary surfaces
    - Lunar/Mars, Robotic/Human, Orbiters/Rovers/Habitats, etc.
  - Currently surveying agencies for mission plans and needs

- **Time Correlation and Synchronization BOF**
  - Exotic technical problem - establishing time on distant spacecraft
  - Applies spacecraft-to-spacecraft, space-to-MOC, etc.

- **Voice and Video WGs**
  - Classic problem of Voice/Video degradation from analog/digital conversions during cross support (mostly human spaceflight programs)
  - Plan to establish “profiles” of cross-supported commercial standards

More participation in these freshly-forming topics is encouraged.
Drinking from a fire hose?
Recent Membership News

- Thailand, Turkey, Kazakhstan admitted as observer agencies
- Nigeria and Egypt expressing interest

Next Tech WG meeting: October 25-29, 2010

- At British Standards Institute, London, UK
- Hosted by UK Space Agency
- Visit [www.ccsds.org](http://www.ccsds.org) for info
- Management meeting the following week includes joint meeting with the Interagency Operations Advisory Group (IOAG).

Spring 2011: May 16-20, 2011

- DIN facility, Berlin DE
- Hosted by DLR
- Management meeting the following week includes joint meeting with ISO TC20/SC14
Concluding Information

✧ Take-home message: Still much work to be done
  ✧ As technology changes, new standards must emerge
  ✧ This **enables interoperability** between international agencies
  ✧ New technologies will enable new mission concepts, sometimes unanticipated benefits.

✧ Even if a mission has no int’l interoperability goals, missions should comply with standards to enable contingency (rescue) operations. Examples:
  ✧ 1995 - NASA DSN “rescue” of UK’s STRV vehicle
  ✧ 2008 - NASA DSN “rescue” of ESA’s XMM-Newton mission

✧ **When mankind reaches other planetary surfaces, we can’t afford to not have standardization.**
  ✧ It’s too far away to have the inefficiencies of incompatible systems.
  ✧ It’s too far away to not use the help of other agencies on that new planet.