

CTA Bulletin

Best Practices for Implementing Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) based Alerts for Consumer Electronics Devices

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(Formulated under the cognizance of the CTA **R4 Video Systems Committee.**)

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FOREWORD

This bulletin was developed under the R4, Video Systems Committee. The document is intended to provide a list of best practices for providing emergency alerts on consumer electronics devices that process alerts.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in a decision published in late 2008, uses emergency alert messages to be issued in Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) format. Alert messages in CAP format can reach the broadcasting entities (i.e. TV stations, Radio stations, providers), where they may be reformatted, as suitable for the specific medium. Messages may also come to the station via EAS, and SAME protocol.

The alert information that reaches the end device (“receiver”) depends on the technology or field it serves. However, alert information rendering and presentation to the user are further defined by the capabilities of the specific receiver.

In order to allow the users to quickly and clearly understand the alert information that their receiver provides, it is desired to create a similar user experience across technologies and devices.

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1 Scope

This document provides recommended practices, independent of delivery method, for CAP-encoded data usage among various consumer electronics devices that process CAP-encoded data. The document includes guidelines for filtering and device response.

The document does not address the usage of CAP-encoded data that is converted by the delivering source into its regular ('native') format, as it may be perceived by the devices as regular format content.

This bulletin focuses on device behavior associated with the receipt and processing of CAP-based alert messages. This document also includes recommended practices regarding accessibility to alerts.

2 References

2.1 Informative References

The following documents contain provisions that, through reference in this text, constitute informative provisions of this document. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All documents are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this document are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the documents listed here.

2.2 Informative Reference List

1. ECIG-IG-1.0, *ECIG Recommendations for a CAP EAS Implementation Guide*, May 17, 2010.
2. IPAWS v1.0, *Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS) Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Profile Requirements v1.0*, October 13, 2009.
3. ISO/IEC 8859-1, *Information Technology -- 8-bit Single-byte Coded Graphic Character Sets -- Part 1: Latin Alphabet No. 1*, 1998.
4. J-STD-102, *ATIS/TIA CMAS Federal Alert Gateway to CMSP Gateway Interface Test Specification*, January 2011.
5. OASIS CAP v1.2, *Common Alerting Protocol v1.2*, July 2010.

2.3 Informative Reference Acquisition

1. EAS-CAP Industry Group, Email: comment@eas-cap.org, Web: <http://www.eas-cap.org>.
2. OASIS, 25 Corporate Drive Suite 103, Burlington, MA 01803-4238, USA, Phone: +1-781-425-5073, Fax: +1-781-425-5072, Email: info@oasis-open.org, Web: <http://www.oasis-open.org>.
3. International Organization for Standardization, ISO Central Secretariat, 1, ch. de la Voie-Creuse, CP 56, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, Phone: +41-22-749-01-11, Fax: +41-22-733-34-30, E-mail: central@iso.org, Web: <http://www.iso.org>.
4. Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions, 1200 G Street, NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005, USA, Phone: +1-202-628-6380, Fax: +1-202-393-5453, Web: <http://www.atis.org>.
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