

NSTIC IDESG Standards CC

Standards Adoption Criteria
Draft considerations
11/08/2012 *(updated)*

Basic issues

(this slide deck)

- **Purpose of a policy**
- **Instances of filters / criteria**
- **Agile Development quandry**

Purpose of a policy

Open standards from stable sources generally enable:

- **Vendor (and DIY) neutrality, enabling access and addressing competition-law issues**
- **True network effects, via open-ended federation opportunities**
- **Cost savings via common interfaces, tools, providers**

Filters / criteria: examples

- **OMB Circular A-119** http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars_a119
- **WTO Technical Barriers to Trade Annex #3 ("Code of Good Practice")** http://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/17-tbt.pdf
- **NTTAA criteria** <http://standards.gov/nttaa/agency/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.main> • www.ferc.gov/legal/staff-reports/07-15-10-smart-grid.pdf (PDF)
- **EU Directive 98/34 as amended October 2012**
http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/intm/132723.pdf • <https://www.oasis-open.org/news/pr/eu-reform>
- **Cross-certifiers like ISO/IEC JTC1 ("PAS rules")**
<http://isotc.iso.org/livelink/livelink?func=ll&objId=8913248&objAction=browse>
 - <http://isotc.iso.org/livelink/livelink/open/jtc1>

Filters / criteria: commonalities

- Fairness criterion
- Openness, in the sense of anyone can participate within reasonable restrictions
- Openness, in the sense of public access to input and results
- Declared process rules
- Publication process with established host & reasonable permanence

Filters / criteria: issues

- Fairness criterion (not easy to measure in the absence of known shenanigans)
- Openness, in the sense of anyone can participate within reasonable restrictions (issues around pay-to-play, and the accessibility of IPR practices)
- Openness, in the sense of public access to input and results (pay-to-read, IPR licensing, and a lot of compliance that seems nominal but opaque)
- Declared process rules (they vary, as does the degree to which they are neutrally enforced; gaming versioning)
- Publication process with established host & reasonable permanence (severely underassessed in some quarters: the dot.org problem)

Agile Development quandry

- New technologies genuinely do get ahead of standards approvals processes
- Are standards "over"? Vendors sometimes like to think so
- How important is stability? What's the shelf life of the project? How dependent on open enrollment is it? How much of an interface actually must be standardized?
- Is an API a standard?
- Promises to finish a standards process, or send something to standardization later, can be specious

Next steps?

- **Do we wish to develop draft criteria for broader circulation?**
- **Should we assume some kind of IDESG evaluation loop against criteria? (In "Inventory"? In approvals? In endorsed projects?)**
- **Do we have any thoughts on how that should happen?**