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Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)  
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Project: Radio Frequency Identification Technology  
Ref. Doc: INCITS T6\_N2003\_014R\_AR1  
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### **INCITS T6 Annual Report**

**Annual Report for:** Operational Management Committee

**Covering the Period from:** May 2002 through June 2003

**Title of NCITS Subgroup:** Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Technology Technical Committee -- T6

**Web Page:** INCITS T6 maintains an active website for committee use at  
[http://www.autoid.org/INCITS/incits\\_t6.htm](http://www.autoid.org/INCITS/incits_t6.htm).

#### **Executive Summary:**

The American National Institute (ANSI) approved ANS NCITS 256:1999 on October 18, 1999 and the ANSI BSR approved the first revision, INCITS 256:2001, on 8 June 2001. An INCITS SD3 was filed and approved on 1 August 2001 for continuing work to include interrogator communications and new air interfaces. An additional SD3 was filed on 22 May 2003 to clarify the interrogator communications work to embrace a multi-standard, multi-frequency, multi-protocol reader (MSR). On that same date the T6 filed an SD3 to inform INCITS that it would not be working on electronic article surveillance due to lack of participation by EAS vendors.

#### **Significant accomplishments:**

Work on the MSR has nearly completed the definition stage.

INCITS 256 has been used as a technical reference document for ANS MH10.8.4 (Radio-frequency Identification for Returnable Containers) within ANSI MH 10/SC 8 and ISO DIS18185 (Communication Protocol for Electronic Container Seals) within ISO TC 104/SC 4/WG 2. INCITS 256 has been implemented within the automotive industry for the tagging of tires. INCITS 256 (Part 4.2) has been adopted as one of two of the air interface specification for the EAN.UCC GTAG initiative. INCITS 256 (Parts 4.1 and 4.2) are candidates for the air interface specifications for several of the ISO TC 122/104 Joint Working Group – Supply Chain Applications of RFID (ISO 17363, ISO 17364, ISO 17364, ISO 17366, ISO 17367)

Committee members continue to work with JTC 1/SC 31/WG 4 for use in the development of the international standard through the US TAG (AIM ADC 1/TG 4).

#### **Challenges:**

From an international perspective it makes sense that the U.S. committee developing the U.S. standards for RFID should also be the U.S. TAG to the international committee developing ISO and IEC standards. To not have that responsibility may affect the U.S.'s ability to embrace ISO/ANSI standards so as to replace the ANSI INCITS T6 standards that served as the source of many of the ISO standards. The

committee plans to investigate means by which INCITS T6 may become the U.S. TAG to the ISO committees developing international RFID standards.

#### Previous Years Meetings:

Date	Group	City	Host
21-22 May 2002	Tech Committee	Washington, DC	DoD
2 August 2002	MSR Ad Hoc	Vancouver, BC	Intermec
10-11 September 2002	Tech Committee	San Francisco, CA	Cancelled (Sept 11 <sup>th</sup> )
19-20 November 2002	Tech Committee	Sunnyvale, CA	DoD AIT Office
14 January 2003	MSR Ad Hoc	Williamsburg, VA	Northrop Grumman
25-26 February 2003	Tech Committee	Dallas, TX	Cancelled
3 April 2003	MSR Ad Hoc	San Antonio, TX	QED Systems
20-21 May 2003	Tech Committee	Virginia Beach, VA	DoD

#### Next Years Meetings

Date	Group	City	Host
11-12 September 2003	Tech Committee	Cedar Rapids, IA	QED Systems
9-10 December 2003	Tech Committee	Washington, DC	DoD
16-17 February 2004	Tech Committee	Clearwater Beach, FL	QED Systems

Liaison activities: None

#### Officers:

Chair: Craig K. Harmon (NCITS Officer Training October 2000)  
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Vice Chair: *Resigned 14 January 2003; currently vacant*  
Anna M. Scala (NCITS Officer Training October 2000)  
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Membership: See Attachment 1

### **Future Trends:**

T6 foresees continuing advancements in RFID technology and decreasing costs to take advantage of both old and new RFID markets. A number of large established companies in the computer industry are beginning to take an interest in developing RFID devices for various applications and are joining the technical committee. Also with the growing interest in Supply Chain Integration worldwide, RFID technology is contributing to improve tracking and control of items in the supply chain.

This lack of standardization limits the market to closed systems and prevents expansion outside company boundaries. The demand for standardization from the user community remains strong. Their goal is international standardization.

The end user community has noted the wide disparity of standards included within INCITS 256 and has insisted that with such variety a common approach to reading systems is required. This is the focus of the current interrogator communications work to embrace a multi-standard, multi-frequency, multi-protocol reader (MSR) within INCITS T6.

### **Informal Description of Work:**

T6 was established in March 1991 to develop RFID protocol standards for electronic transponders and interrogators for business and military logistics applications. Application areas effected by the standards are; transportation, warehousing, maintenance, energy, and industrial production.

There are two primary uses of the technology:

- Asset identification and tracking; e.g., locating items in warehouses, containers in open storage areas and items moving through business processes; and
- Storage and retrieval of data; e.g., notice of delivery, invoice lists, warehousing receipts, storage of maintenance records, and related transactions.

**Attachment 1  
Membership (as of 6-25-03)**

**INCITS T6**

**Radio Frequency Identification (RFID)**

**AIM INC**

**Mary Beth Hodil**

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Note: Voting/Advisory indicates the Organization's Membership type and not their current voting status. The Representative's participation class is directly below.