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TITLE: ISMA Liaison to OMA on ISMACryp 2.0

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ISMA thanks OMA for the Liaison

Title: "ISMA on ISMACryp 2.0 and versions"

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addressing a question on the versioning policy that ISMA applies to its technical specification and also a request for information on the status of ISMACryp 2.0. ISMA is happy to provide the required information in this liaison response.

1. Reference for ISMACryp 1.1

ISMA recommends referring to ISMACryp 1.1 as

ISMA Encryption and Authentication Specification, Version 1.1, July 2006, <http://www.isma.tv>

2. Reference for ISMACryp 2.0

ISMA recommends referring to ISMACryp 2.0 as

ISMA Encryption and Authentication Specification, Version 2.0, November 2007, <http://www.isma.tv>

3. Use and meaning of major / minor version and what to use for 2.0 / 2

ISMA recommends using the version number “2.0” for referring to ISMACryp 2.0. It is not recommended to use only the major version (“2”) as the minor version indicates new functionality. For example, ISMACryp 1.1 extends ISMACryp 1.0 by supporting H.264/AVC. Please also note that corrigenda or bug fixes would be indicated by a third digit in the version number, e.g. “2.0.1” (as was the case for ISMA 1.0 to 1.0.1).

4. Use of ISMACryp 1.1 vs 2.0

Please note that ISMACryp 2.0 is a superset of ISMACryp 1.0 and 1.1. I.e., the specification text of ISMACryp 2.0 also includes all the information needed to build an ISMACryp 1.1 compliant product.

Considering the use of ISMACryp 1.1 vs. 2.0 we refer to

[ISMACryp 2.0, section 7.1]: The payload format ‘enc-isoff-generic’ is RECOMMENDED for any new application. The payload format ‘enc-mpeg4-generic’ should only be used if backward compatibility with existing ISMACryp 1.1 applications is desired.

Hence, ISMA recommends the use of version 2.0 (‘enc-isoff-generic’) since it is the more recent and general approach. However, it is also possible to use version 1.1 (‘enc-mpeg4-generic’) if this has advantages in terms of simplicity and/or backwards compatibility. Furthermore, if only MPEG-4 codecs are required (e.g. H.264/AVC, AAC) then ISMACryp 1.1 may be adequate.

Note that in particular we believe that DVB-H uses ‘enc-mpeg4-generic’.

5. Status of ISMACryp 2.0

The ISMACryp 2.0 specification is final and has passed extensive interoperability tests (3 independent implementations, >100 test files, streaming and file-playback tests with various features). The specification is available at our web site (www.isma.tv).

6. Status on disclosed IPRs

Up to now, the ISMA has not received any IPR disclosures on any of its specifications.

The ISMA hopes that the information provided above fully answers the addressed questions. In addition, we would like to note that ISMA plans to have ISMACryp 2.0 reference files available for public download on its web site. ISMA will inform OMA on further progress in this issue.

We appreciate your feedback and are happy to be of further assistance.