

## **Executive summary of Study Group 12 Meeting (Geneva 24-31 March 2004)**

This meeting of Study Group 12 finalized several new Recommendations planned for the present Study Period, and, furthermore, prepared the new Study Period. New and revised Questions were drawn up, taking into consideration proposals resulting from the two workshops held after the last SG 12 Meeting (QoS in October 2003 and Telecoms and Motor vehicles, in November 2003), and bearing in mind also the CTOs Statements and positions (CTOs meeting, December 2003).

The main focus is **end to end Quality** (of service) for all types of media., which implies continuing work on quality of networks and terminals and increasing emphasis on **QoS interoperability** between all core and access networks (Mobile and fixed networks). This is one of the major challenges for ITU-T in the coming years.

The work on **quality models** will continue (in three domains : psychophysics, in-service non-intrusive and opinion models), for **voice** (including **wideband**) but will be extended to **multimedia**. This work will be carried out in particular in the new Joint Rapporteurs Group (**JRG**) on Multimedia Quality Assessment (speech quality experts from Q.9/12 and video experts from Q.21/9).

SG 12 will make a more concerted effort to train new members and participants in the work in progress through developing handbooks, web based tutorials, etc.

The coordination role on QoS within SG 12 will continue, with a view to improving cooperation inside ITU-T and with other bodies, regarding QoS signalling, QoS interoperability, etc.

### **Working Party 1/12, "Telephonometry and Terminals"**

Consent for **Revised Recommendation P.313** "Transmission Characteristics for cordless and mobile Digital Terminals" The main improvements concern the handsfree characteristics and the enhancement of test methods.

Consent for two **new Annexes to P.501** "Speech files and noise sequences". These data will be a common data base for operators, manufacturers willing to make subjective and objective quality tests.

A major decision was to initiate work on handsfree communication in motor vehicles, where standardization is needed, as a first initiative linked to the new **APSC-Telemov**.

## **Working Party 2/12, "Performance, Planning and Measurement"**

Consent for **new Recommendation P.880** "Continuous Evaluation of Time-Varying Speech Quality". As a result of several studies conducted in research laboratories, this new methodology gives a new way of assessing subjectively time varying quality (Mobile, IP,...)

Consent for **new Recommendation P.563** "Single Ended Method for Objective Speech Quality Assessment in Narrow-Band Telephony Applications". This quality model determines the speech transmission quality without any reference signal, in contrast with Recommendation P.862.

Approval of a **new Appendix II to Recommendation G.108** "Planning examples regarding delay in packet based networks".

## **Working Party 3/12 QoS Over IP**

Consent for **New Recommendation P.1010** "Fundamental Voice Transmission Objectives for VoIP Terminals and Gateways". It provides guidance on fundamental speech transmission performance requirements for IP terminals and gateways.

Consent for an **Annex to Rec. G.1020** "VoIP Gateway-Specific performance parameters". It defines VoIP Gateway-specific reference points and performance parameters.

Consent for **Revised Recommendation P.562** "Analysis and interpretation of INMD voice-service measurements". This revision follows an update of Rec. P.561 in 2002, and describes how measurement results obtained with tools compliant with Rec. P.561 can be analysed and interpreted.

The scope of new Rec. **P.VTQ** (methodology for in-service non-intrusive assessment of VoIP voice quality based on IP protocol analysis) has been modified to take into account both static and dynamic calibration. Dynamic calibration will be based on a new protocol adopted by the IETF: RTCP XR. This protocol makes it possible to transfer from network element to network element, amongst the path of a session, information on the quality (delays, packet losses) of the session and how these elements interact (jitter buffer size, etc.). The use of this new protocol is growing very fast, so that it has been felt necessary to take it into account into P.VTQ. Otherwise, the model could become very quickly obsolete, or at least restricted to a very few situations.

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