

SOURCE : Japan

TITLE : Mandatory H.320 interworking modes of operation for H.32X

PURPOSE : Discussion & Proposal

1 Introduction

AVC-673R(Report of the Grimstad meeting) states that " A minimum set of interworking modes of operation which H.32X terminals should support has been agreed to include 2B, H0, H11 and H12." It is not preferable, however, for H.32X to support all of the modes from the view points of hardware burdens. We propose to reconsider the mandatory H.320 interworking modes of operation at this time.

2 Asymmetric terminal (Viewing Station)

Asymmetric terminals, called type A1 and B1 in the draft recommendation H.32X, can only receive and function as viewing stations. It seems to be a very rare requirement for these terminals, such as CATV receivers, to interwork with H.320 terminals. We, Japanese members, propose all of the interworking modes of operation to be optional for asymmetric terminals.

3 Symmetric terminal

Symmetric terminals are called type A2 and B2 in the draft recommendation H.32X. H.32X should interwork with H.320. While more mandatory modes enable wider interoperability, fewer mandatory modes enable inexpensive terminals. Some manufactures may desire few mandatory modes. We shall raise two alternative mandatory modes of operation. We, Japanese members, have not reached to the consensus yet. The followings are two alternatives and the related opinions.

(1) B mode, and G.711 audio only.

- H.261 hardware is expensive.
- Audio mode is enough for the mandatory interoperability as a communication terminal.
- B-N interwork service will not be available so soon.
- Not so many H.320 terminals are in the market for H.32X to support the interoperability as a mandatory mode.
- If H.320 terminals are widely available at the time of the H.32X standardization, H.32X will have the interworking modes no matter they are mandatory or option.

(2) up to 2B mode, H.261 and G.711.

- H.261 is inexpensive. One chip codec is currently available, for example.
- Audio and limited video communication is the basic requirement for the interoperability as an AV terminal.
- B-N interwork service should be available soon.
- Most of all H.320 terminals have at least 2B mode.
- Standardization should lead the market. All AV terminals must interwork each other by audio and video as long as they conform to ITU-T recommendations.

4 Conclusion

We proposed to reconsider the mandatory H.320 interoperability modes of operation for H.32X in this contribution. Although we could not propose the unique solution, we believe it is not appropriate that all H.32X terminals are specified to support all of 2B, H0, H11, and H12 modes as a mandatory requirement.

References

- [1] AVC-673R "Report of the Sixteenth Experts Group Meeting in Grimstad", Rapporteur(Okubo), July 1994.
- [2] Draft Recommendation H.32X "Broadband Audiovisual Communication Systems and Terminal Equipment", Chia-Chang Li