

Enhanced Group Call - Application Programming Interface Correspondence Group (EGC-API CG) Terms of Reference

1. Objective

To develop an enhanced group calling (EGC) application programming interface (API) standard to support the machine-to-machine transfer of EGC shore-to-ship information, including its required messaging instructions, between certified and registered EGC providers and recognized mobile-satellite service providers.

In developing an EGC-API standard and connection requirements, the EGC-API CG will endeavour to employ modern open standard formats, protocols and technologies.

The following issues are to be addressed:

- a. Compatibility between certified and registered EGC providers and recognized mobile-satellite service providers;
- b. Integrity and security of communications between certified and registered EGC providers and recognized mobile-satellite service providers;
- c. Integration and training of certified and registered EGC providers;
- d. Conformance with international guidelines and guidance developed by International Maritime Organization (IMO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), including the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on Maritime Safety Information (IHO Publication No.53).

2. Governance

- a. The EGC-API CG is a subsidiary of the IHO World-Wide Navigational Warning Service – Sub Committee (WWNWS-SC).
- b. The EGC-API CG will submit its recommendations or decisions and report annually, or more frequently as appropriate, to the WWNWS-SC.
- c. The EGC-API CG will submit the final draft of an API standard to the WWNWS-SC for approval.
- d. The EGC-API CG will primarily conduct its work by correspondence, but may meet face-to-face during, or adjacent to, a meeting of the WWNWS-SC.
- e. Papers and information material will be hosted on a SharePoint site supported by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA). The Chair will make access available to the SharePoint site in accordance with AMSA access policies.
- f. The EGC-API CG will liaise with other international bodies, as appropriate. This includes updating the WMO Worldwide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service (WWMIWS).
- g. Recommendations or decisions of the EGC-API CG should be made by consensus. If votes are required on issues or to endorse proposals, only Member States may cast a vote. Votes shall be on the basis of one vote per Member State represented.
- h. The EGC-API CG will have completed its work when the final draft of the API standard, submitted to the WWNWS-SC, has been approved.

3. Procedures

The EGC-API CG will:

- a. identify a work program, including expected timeframe;
- b. review the needs and requirements for an EGC-API standard to support the machine-to-machine transfer of EGC shore-to-ship information between certified and registered providers and recognized mobile-satellite service providers;
- c. identify desirable requirements in support of 3.b.;
- d. ensure compliance with the guidelines and guidance in 1.d.;
- e. develop a testbed to validate the functionality of the EGC-API standard;
- f. develop minimum test procedures to demonstrate compliance with the EGC-API standard; and
- g. submit the proposed EGC-API standard to WWNWS-SC for approval.

4. Composition

- a. Membership of the EGC-API CG is open to:
 - all certified and registered EGC shore-to-ship information providers;
 - all recognized mobile-satellite service providers;
 - accredited non-governmental international organizations.
- b. Membership of the EGC-API CG is also open to entities and organizations that can provide a relevant technical or operational contribution.
- c. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the EGC-API CG are appointed by the Chair of WWNWS-SC.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

- a. Chair – provide direction, distribute drafts/records of decisions/work plans
- b. Vice-Chair – assist the Chair
- c. Members – respond in a timely manner to requests for feedback, participate in the EGC-API CG and provide input into group activities