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INTERNATIONAL FORECOURT

STANDARDS FOR UM

Newsletter of the International Forecourt Standards Forum

May 2024

A warm welcome from the IFSF Chair

by Carl Jones

Hello and welcome to the Spring edition of Forum. In this Newsletter we are pleased to present an update on the roadmap that we discussed at the 30th anniversary Conference at Old Trafford in November.

At the conference, you told us that we need to do a better job of communicating the work that we are doing, and the roadmap is one step along this journey. The first version of the roadmap is now available on the IFSF website, and it provides a graphical view of the initiatives that we are planning to work on over the next few years. As with all plans, and in the spirit of agility, we expect to monitor and adapt our work in line with our strategy and based on your feedback. We also plan to update the roadmap in future with more information about the progress of each of the initiatives and so I recommend that you bookmark the page and come back to it whenever you want an update. And if you couldn't attend the conference, or you would like a reminder of the topics presented, you can find the presentation materials along with videos of each of the sessions on the IFSF website.

Hopefully, you will also have seen on social media that we have been talking about the Infographics that show the breadth of IFSF standards available along with the series of three webinars that we presented last year giving some insights into the workings

of IFSF. In this Newsletter we will also provide an update on what is happening in each of the Workgroups along with a Case Study that highlights the benefits of IFSF membership. If this whets your appetite, then we would love to see you at an upcoming Workgroup meeting. All members are welcome to attend any of the Workgroups and it's really the best way to see and hear what we are doing and for you to contribute to the standards of the future.

Finally I would like to thank Tamas Braun and Nick Allen, IFSF Board member representatives for ExxonMobil and P97, and welcome their replacements. I have known Tamas for many years, and he always brings great knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to everything he does and that has certainly been the case for his role on the IFSF Board. And whilst only knowing Nick for the last couple of years I have been extremely grateful for the strong support that he gave me, particularly in the areas of governance and strategy. I will miss them both, but I look forward to working with their successors with Ferenc Both taking over from Tamas and Dan Harrell as the new Technical Associate member representative.

I hope that you enjoy this edition of Forum and please feel free to get in touch to let us know what else you would like to hear about in the future. Thanks!



Carl Jones

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UNITI Expo 2024

Save the Date!

IFSF Conference 2024

Pestana Douro Hotel, Porto, Portugal 13-14 November 2024

IFSF Roadmap Now Available

We are delighted to announce that the IFSF Roadmap is now accessible for your review.

This 'prototype' online roadmap incorporates features requested by members, providing detailed descriptions of Focus Areas and Initiatives. Simply hover over Focus Area entries to explore, and click on Initiatives for additional information. The format closely mirrors that shared at our conference and renders seamlessly on mobile devices in landscape mode. As we plan for a roadmap refresh later in 2024, we welcome your feedback and suggestions for further enhancements,

such as member comments and expanded initiative details.

Noteworthy changes since conference:

- Hydrogen Focus Area priority changed from Medium to Low
- Reservations Services Focus Area priority changed from Low to Medium
- OEM and Instant Payment initiatives brought forward to 1Q25, with an 'initial look' during the 2024 Horizon Scan
- Data Dictionary Focus Area replaces
 Data Management, with related
 initiatives re-ordered



To view the Roadmap, visit: https://ifsf.org/ifsf-roadmap/

Reflecting on a Journey of Innovation and Collaboration: My tenure at IFSF

Tamas Braun

As I pen down these lines, I find myself reflecting on the remarkable journey that has been my tenure as a Board of Director member at the International Forecourt Standards Forum (IFSF).

Two years ago, I embarked on this role with a vision to contribute to the evolution of technology standards in the Fuel and Energy retail sectors. Today, as I prepare to pass the baton to my esteemed colleague, Ferenc Both, I take a moment to look back on the strides we've made together.

I have spent more than 12 years working in the Downstream Retail IT area in ExxonMobil, designing and implementing systems that would bring value to our customers. The IFSF has always stood as a beacon of collaboration and innovation, and it was this spirit that drew me to its mission.

From the outset, my goal was to foster an environment where ideas could

flourish, and solutions could be crafted to address the intricate challenges of our industry. During my time with the IFSF, we have seen significant advancements in the standardization of equipment interconnectivity and communication. It has been a privilege to witness the forum's growth and to have played a part in shaping the standards that will define our industry for years to come.

One of the most fulfilling aspects of my role has been the opportunity to work alongside professionals who share a common vision. Together, we have tackled many challenges like the global standards development and the finalization of our Cross Licensing Agreement with Conexxus. This agreement formalized our collaboration, paving the way for truly global standards and enabled the development of the API Data Dictionary.

During my time with IFSF we have also made endeavors to expand into







Ferenc Roth

Alternative Fuels and EV Charging Standards. We have formed new joint work groups to integrate with Hydrogen dispensers and Car Wash systems. We have also partnered with the Open Charge Alliance (OCA) and the EV Roaming Foundation (EVRF) to develop materials to implement EV charging solutions at service stations.

As I transition out of my role, I am confident that the IFSF is in capable hands. Ferenc brings with him a wealth of knowledge and a fresh perspective that will undoubtedly propel the forum to new heights.

I look forward to seeing the innovative solutions that will emerge under his guidance. In closing, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all the members of the IFSF for their support and collaboration. It has been an honor to serve alongside you.

Case Study:

Fortech's Success with IFSF Closed Loop API Standard

Fortech, a leading provider of services and automation equipment for service stations and EV charging facilities in Italy and beyond, has incorporated the IFSF Closed Loop API standard as a key part of their service offering. With a dedicated focus on enhancing business performance for operators, networks, and energy companies, Fortech has leveraged the IFSF standard to drive innovation, efficiency, and cost savings across their operations.

With over 150 staff members, Fortech boasts a dynamic team with an average age of 35. Their market presence extends not only throughout Italy but also into various countries across Europe and Africa. The company's infrastructure connects over 14,000 service stations, with 8,500 OPT/ POS systems installed. Fortech's key offering includes a diverse portfolio of solutions, focussed on automation and payment solutions for traditional refuelling dispensers, EV charging stations and car wash systems.

Benefits Derived from IFSF Closed Loop API Standard

1. Time Savings in Development

By adopting the IFSF Closed Loop API standard, Fortech has realised up to 90% reduction in the time required for software development. Leveraging OpenAPI for automatic code generation has streamlined the development process, allowing Fortech's developers to focus on innovation rather than repetitive coding tasks.

2. Cost Efficiency

Automation through the OpenAPI framework has expedited Fortech's software development cycles, resulting in shorter time-to-market intervals. This efficiency translates into tangible cost savings, giving Fortech a competitive edge in delivering solutions to their clients.

3. Basic Coding Know-How

The use of standard RESTful APIs has simplified development tasks, eliminating the need for extensive knowledge in the complex Payment Industry. This ease of development has also made talent acquisition smoother for Fortech, as developers can quickly adapt to the standardised framework.

4. Scalability

With the IFSF standard, Fortech has gained the ability to easily add additional instances of applications to handle increased traffic and demand. This scalability ensures that their solutions can grow alongside their clients' needs, without compromising on performance or reliability.

5.Savings on Infrastructural Costs

Transitioning to a cloud-based elastic infrastructure has enabled Fortech to significantly reduce upfront capital costs and ongoing maintenance expenses. This shift to a more flexible infrastructure model aligns with modern trends in technology, providing Fortech with both financial savings and operational agility.

6. Easier Integrations

The reduced complexity afforded by the IFSF standard has made integrations more seamless for Fortech. With pre-built APIs readily available, the process of integrating services into their solutions



has become more efficient and straightforward.

7. Interoperability

The IFSF Closed Loop API standard facilitates efficient information exchanges, even when components are developed by different organisations. This interoperability ensures that Fortech's solutions can seamlessly integrate with various systems and platforms, enhancing their overall value proposition.

8. Savings on Maintenance

Fortech benefits from the IFSF standards consistent and detailed API documentation, reducing the likelihood of errors during maintenance. Code generation capabilities further aid in minimising human error, while the ability to develop new API versions alongside older ones ensures continuous improvement and compatibility.

Fortech's adoption of the IFSF Closed Loop API standard has enabled them to continue driving their business growth and success. From significant time savings in development to cost efficiencies, scalability, and enhanced interoperability, Fortech has leveraged the standard to deliver innovative solutions to their clients while maintaining a competitive edge in the market. With a focus on simplifying development, reducing costs, and improving integration capabilities, Fortech continues to expand its leadership in the services and automation equipment sector for service stations worldwide.



IFSF Work Groups Update

IFSF EFT & Payments Work Group

This Work Group, chaired by Ian S. Brown, is responsible for the development and maintenance of the IFSF's payment and loyalty standards including payment security standards.

Current activities and processes are focused on:

- A refresh of the IFSF payment security standards; Key management standards were released and the general security standards are in the process of being released
- Updates on P2F/H2H ISO 8583 standards
- An implementation guide for the combined use of IFSF payment standards and OCPP/OCPI EV standards on the forecourt.

Current standards include:

- Issuer initiated and merchant initiated closed loop payment API
- POS to FEP and Host to Host payment standards
- Security standard and Key Management Standard
- POS to EPS standard (XML)

More information on IFSF's current activities and standards can be found on the IFSF website (https://ifsf.org/work-groups/).

Joint API Work Group

This Work Group, organised jointly with Conexxus, focuses on discussing and developing APIs, their design and implementation guides, as well as the joint API Data Dictionary.

Current activities and processes are focused on: usage of oauth bearer tokens, making the API call summary equal to the actual call, Timezone usage definitions, using native JSON schemas, CardTypeIDType definitions and releasing a white paper on the Data Dictionary. Leading to a new version of the published standard documents and

a new version of the Data Dictionary. Also in the mean time version 1.5 of the data dictionary has been released,

Current standards include:

- API design rules for JSON and OAS
- API implementation Guides
- API Data Dictionary version 1.5

More information on IFSF's current activities and standards developed jointly with Conexxus are available in the Open Retailing GitLab (https://gitlab.openretailing.org/).

Joint Loyalty API Work Group

This Work Group, organised jointly with Conexxus, focuses on the development of an API-based loyalty standard.

Current activities and processes are focused on:

The development of the first release of an API based Loyalty standard to support, for a single loyalty programme, earning points, using points for part payment (loyalty tender) and a simple discount on a single product.

Current standards include:

Loyalty API (in draft)

Joint Mobile API Work Group

This Work Group, organised jointly with Conexxus, focuses on the development of mobile payment APIs.

Current activities and processes are focused on:

The Group is currently working to develop, update and release a new version of the Mobile Payment API Standard v2.0.

More information on the workgroup activities & recent meeting topics available on both IFSF and Conexxus websites.

Current version 2.0 is soon to be released. Threat model was approved and soon the version will be submitted for Legal and Technical review.

Current standards include:

Pay at pump flow, Outside PostPay, car wash Outside use cases, including all data types, events, objects, parameters and all message types with respective response messages.

Joint POS-EPS Work Group

This Work Group, organised jointly with Conexxus, focuses on the development of a new API-based version of the POS – EPS standard as a common global standard designed to replace the different XML based POS – EPS standards in use by IFSF and Conexxus.

Current activities and processes are focused on:

Development of v1.1 of the POS-EPS API to include Loyalty handling and Host-based prompting

Current standards include:

POS-EPS API (v1.0)

Joint Forecourt Work Group

This Work Group, organised jointly with Conexxus, focuses on the development of joint API standards enabling a standard messaging interface between the forecourt functions.

The Forecourt Working Group has released Forecourt Device Controller (FDC) V2.1.2 (XML) Specification, which provides for device control and enables exchange of device status and data through replacing proprietary protocols existing between the Point of Sale (POS) and forecourt devices, allowing a (POS) to use standard messaging to interface to the forecourt device controller. The Working Group is currently working on the next release of the FDC API standard. A FDC API (V1.0) is also available.

The Working Group has several open projects (of which 1, 2 and 3 are in review phase before releasing):

 A controlling device to dispenser API interface project, which will allow for direct control of the dispenser including Hydrogen dispensing from any controlling device (e.g., POS).

- A controlling device to price pole API interface project, which will allow for direct control of the price pole from any controlling device (e.g., POS);
- 3. A controlling device to tank level gauge API interface project, which will allow for direct control of the tank level gauge from any controlling device (e.g., POS).
- 4. An update to the FDC API to create equivalent functionality with the most recent XML specification.
- 5. Inclusion of Hydrogen requirements in the dispenser API interface

Current standards include:

- FDC API v1
- FDC XML v2.1.2

Joint Car Wash API Work Group

This Work Group, organised jointly with Conexxus, focuses on the development of a new API-based version of the Car Wash standard as a common global standard designed to replace the different XML based Car Wash standards in use by IFSF and Conexxus. On top of this new standard additional use cases will be added in a new version of this standard.

Current activities and processes are focused on:

Align together with Conexxus on a joint Car Wash API as a global standard. Mainly aimed at the moment to include the specific Conexxus US standards also in the new global Car Wash API standard.

This covers business requirements, flows charts, car wash alarms:

- Selling and management of car wash codes
- Communication of carwash status, errors and warnings
- Reporting of car wash transactions
 Current standards include:
- XML based legacy standard (non API):
- Car Wash state diagrams
- Car wash database description
- Car wash status, errors and warnings

Announcement of new Technical Associate Director

Following the departure of Nick Allen we are pleased to announce that Dan Harrell has been elected as an IFSF Technical Associate Director representative. Dan will join the IFSF Executive Committee and Board of Directors and will work closely with Mirko Spagnolatti to represent the voice of the TA community in setting the future strategy and priorities for IFSF.

As Invenco by GVR's Chief Innovation Officer, Dan Harrell brings twenty-eight years of experience in the global retail and payment industry. He sets the direction for Invenco's innovation, next generation product offerings and technology platforms. He spearheads global strategic initiatives to orchestrate the unified commerce vision to create sustainable value for customers.

In that 28 years, Dan has been an active participant in the PCATS to Conexxus



journey (including chair and co-chair positions) and participated in various IFSF forums including speaking to IFSF about the value of standards to the industry. In every organization that he has participated in and led, he has pushed for participation in standards committees and relentlessly pushed messaging on how standards bring value to the industry and its retailers without sacrificing the offerings of suppliers.

"I am excited and honored to be able to participate in the IFSF journey in this capacity. I truly believe standards will continue to be the opportunity for retailers to unlock more value as they continue to diversify their strategies to grow their business. I am grateful for the opportunity." said Dan.

Welcome to our new members:









IFSF to Present at UNITI Expo 2024

UNITI Expo 2024 Unveils New Future Mobility Lounge

UNITI Expo, the leading European trade fair for the retail petroleum and car wash industries, is once again poised to set new standards with the introduction of the Future Mobility Lounge. The expo, which is taking place on 14-16th May 2024 in Stuttgart, Germany is promising to encompass current and future technologies and the industry's transition towards alternative fuels and new mobility solutions.

IFSF will be both exhibiting in the Future Mobility Lounge and speaking at this year's event. In attendance, from the Forum, will be Ian S. Brown (EFT Work Group Lead) who will be speaking about the work that he is doing with the Open Charge Alliance and the EVRoaming Foundation to simplify the integration of EV charging facilities with the existing forecourt systems and processes.

UNITI Expo, known for its commitment to industry trends and innovation, is proud to announce the launch of the Future Mobility Lounge. This dedicated area demonstrates the event's focus on shaping the future of mobility and its role in driving industry-wide change.

Situated in the gallery of Hall 1 of the Messepiazza 1, and at the entrance



to Hall 3, the Future Mobility Lounge spans over 1,000 m², nearly triple the size of the previous themed pavilion. This expansive exhibition space serves as a central hub for industry innovators, associations, and manufacturers. Attendees will have the unique opportunity to explore the latest advancements in alternative fuels and new mobility solutions, all within a comfortable and engaging environment.

Elmar Kühn, Managing Director of UNITI-Kraftstoff GmbH, expresses UNITI Expo's commitment to future-forward initiatives: "As the leading European trade fair for the retail petroleum and car wash industries, UNITI Expo is dedicated to anticipating industry trends. The introduction of our Future Mobility Lounge reflects the monumental changes sweeping across our sector globally. We invite professionals to join us in shaping the future of mobility."

The Future Mobility Lounge will feature an array of cutting-edge solutions, including those related to e-mobility, hydrogen, LPG, LNG, CNG, biofuels, and e-fuels. In addition to showcasing alternative fuels, the lounge will host the Future Mobility Forum, where experts will delve into emerging trends and insights through dynamic presentations and interactive panels.

We look forward to seeing lots of familiar faces and continuing to champion our involvement in the industry. With over 90% of exhibition space already booked, UNITI Expo 2024 promises to be a monumental event, set to take place from May 14-16! For the latest updates and information for exhibitors and visitors, please visit www.uniti-expo.com.











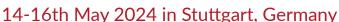












Workgroups:Unlocking the Future of Forecourts

Global reach:

IFSF standards are recognised worldwide, fostering international cooperation and expansion opportunities.

Cutting-edge technology:

Stay ahead of the curve with the latest tech innovations, keeping your business competitive.

Enhanced security:

Ensure data security and customer trust with our robust standards.

Business growth:

Streamline operations and save costs by implementing IFSF standards.

Collaboration:

Join a global network of experts, driving industry excellence together.



PLUS

Be part of the future - joining an IFSF Workgroup means:

Direct influence: Shape industry standards and drive change where it matters most. Influence how the use cases, sequence diagrams and API's will look like in the standard to be published.

Insight: Get fully aware of what is covered in the standard and what is not covered.

Early access: Ability to use the code as soon as the standard is published, either as the standard code or in a combination with your own proprietary code.

Innovation and expertise: Workgroups are hubs of creativity, where new ideas thrive. Gain access to a wealth of knowledge from peers in your field.

Commercial edge: As a member of the workgroup you'll be one of the first companies to apply the new standard.

Join a Workgroup and make a difference!

Scan the QR code to find out more.





