2024: an excellent IFSF vintage!

This year, the Board of Directors welcomed new faces and said farewell to some valued members. A heartfelt thank you goes out to Tamas Braun (ExxonMobil) and Nick Allen (P97) for their outstanding contributions. We're thrilled to welcome Ferenc Both (ExxonMobil) and Dan Harrell (Invenco by GVR) as they step into their roles. Congratulations also for Peter Finta (MOL) and Mirko Spagnolatti (Worldline) on their re-election as representatives on the Board of Directors.

In 2024, more than 20 new member companies joined the IFSF association — an exceptional achievement! What makes this even more remarkable is the diversity of their expertise, reflecting the broader transformation we are embracing: supporting mobility in all its forms. Let's continue evolving together with all our stakeholders.

The annual conference in Porto was another highlight, drawing a record number of participants. The enthusiasm and engagement of our members made this event surpass all our expectations. Thank you to everyone who attended, and a special thanks to our sponsors and partners for helping make this such a successful event.

Our standards mapping also saw substantial improvements thanks to the dedicated efforts of our consultants, Kees Mouws,

François Mezzina

IFSF Director Election Results

In 2022, the IFSF Board amended the Articles of Association to allow representatives from up to two Associate Members and two Technical Associates to be elected to the IFSF Board of directors for a term of two years. These roles give our Associate Members and Technical Associates a much stronger voice in relation to setting the future strategy and priorities for IFSF.

Following the recent process of nominations and elections, we are pleased to announce that the following people have been elected as Directors of IFSF for another term of two years:

- IFSF Associate Member Representative – Peter Finta (MOL Group)

- IFSF Technical Associate Representative – Mirko Spagnolatti (Worldline)

We would like to thank all of the nominees and welcome Peter and Mirko for another term in their roles as IFSF Directors.

Peter Finta

Mirko Spagnolatti

Also in this issue...

2024: an excellent IFSF vintage!

Ian Brown, and Jon Thompson. Their hard work in creating the Reference Architecture, performing two Horizon Scans and updating the Roadmap, has provided us with a robust foundation for planning our next three years of development, aligned with the priorities of our members. Well done, team!

A standout achievement was the white paper developed in partnership with the OCA and the EVRoaming Foundation. This collaboration underscores our member's commitment to integrating all forms of mobility along the value chain. Building and maintaining strong relationships with our partners is crucial as we strive to stay current and meet the evolving demands of the market.

Looking ahead to 2025, I encourage each of you to get involved in our working groups and contribute to the areas that interest you most. Your active participation is the key to ensuring that our standards perfectly meet your needs.

I wish you all and your loved ones an excellent Christmas and happy new year 2025!

François Mezzina
President of the IFSF

Welcome to our new members:

Reflecting on the IFSF 2024 Conference: a resounding success

The IFSF 2024 Annual Conference, held on 13–14 November at the beautiful Pestana Douro Riverside Hotel in Portugal, proved to be a landmark event for the fuel and convenience retail industry. With the theme 'Driving the Future – Innovations & Standards in Sustainable Fuelling,' the conference welcomed a wealth of delegates from across the sector and was hailed as a huge success.

The two-day gathering brought together industry leaders, innovators, and thought leaders to explore cutting-edge developments shaping the future of sustainable fuelling. Highlights included engaging keynote presentations, interactive sessions, and networking opportunities that sparked lively discussions and inspired action.

Key moments from the Conference

Service Stations of the Future. Energise with Tech: innovating for tomorrow

Sofia Tenreiro, Partner at Deloitte, set the stage by exploring the future of Mobility and Energy Retail. She talked about the transformation that the industry is undergoing in terms of the shift to alternative fuels, the change in customer expectations and how technology is revolutionising business models. She highlighted the importance of switching from a vehicle-centric to customer-centric approach and leveraging the latest technology to deliver hyper-personalised customer experiences. She explained how service stations are evolving into mobility hubs offering new value-added services and highlighted how standards can help reduce the complexity of integrating these new services and technologies.

Global retail innovations from around the World

Mark Wholtmann, NACS Global Director moderated the conference and shared his expert insights on the trends that are impacting the industry around the world and how retailers can innovate to stay ahead of the game. He talked about the top strategic issues facing the industry and shared best practices in terms of food service, site architecture, new products, technology and customer experiences.

Unleashing growth and sustainability with IFSF!

Alex Sanchez, Lead Business IT Infrastructure Expert at Q8 shared two case studies of how Q8 have used IFSF standards to efficiently grow their payments business. The first example was an opportunity to close a deal with one of Europe's biggest transporters allowing the company to

sell 100M litres of fuel. The project was undertaken during the challenging times of the Covid pandemic but was delivered successfully in 3 months due to the combination of outstanding teamwork and the ability to leverage well defined standards to integrate with their partners. The second example highlighted how Q8 are able to grow their card payment acceptance across thousands of stations having implemented more than 60 integrations with third party issuers and partner companies using IFSF standards. Alex finished with a call to action for companies to join IFSF and actively participate in the work groups to help develop the standards needed in the future.

Navigating the future: the imperative of industry standards

Ferenc Both, Director of Retail Technology at ExxonMobil shared the ExxonMobil global outlook for energy through 2050 and explained that energy demand for transportation will continue to grow globally albeit with a shift towards more sustainable

and efficient use. He highlighted the emergence of new entrants and innovative solutions and shared his view that as the ecosystem complexity continues to grow, flexibility will be a critical enabler and differentiator. He dispelled the myth that proprietary integration can be used to lock-in customers and shared his views on the benefits of standardisation including simplification of integration, reduced cost of ownership and enabling companies to focus on developing capabilities that provide sustainable competitive advantage!

Moving from a vehicle-centric to customer-centric market

Jan Harmen Akkerman, CEO at TanQyou and Moveyou shared his unique perspectives as both a Fuel Retailer and Digital Mobility Platform services provider. He highlighted the need to diversify and grow your business and that to do that you need to know your customers and their needs. This, coupled with a good digital strategy will enable you to implement technology solutions that meet your

customers evolving expectations. He concluded by sharing four factors to a successful future; Standardisation of protocols, be open in API's, be agnostic and work together!

IFSF reference architecture and roadmap

Jon Thompson, IFSF Strategy Manager, started by introducing the IFSF Reference Architecture as a tool to "clarify the world we operate in and how we aim to serve our members". He showed the interactions between the main domains including administering site sales, operating the forecourt and processing cards, payments and loyalty. He then demonstrated how the reference architecture can be combined with overlays to highlight different aspects such as where IFSF standards fit into the logical view of forecourt operations and sales transaction functions. He shared a summary of the two horizon scan assessments carried out by IFSF earlier this year into the key emerging topics of 'SEPA Instant Payments' and 'Mobility Hubs' and noted that the

FORUM

full reports can be found on the IFSF website. He concluded by sharing the IFSF roadmap of initiatives for the next three years.

IFSF EV charging payments white paper

Ian Brown, IFSF EFT Work Group Chair, presented an overview of the white paper that he drafted in collaboration with the Open Charge Alliance and the EV Roaming Foundation. The target audience for the paper are fuel retail merchants who own and operate EV charging stations across multiple retail sites and who want to leverage their existing payment infrastructure. Ian gave an in-depth explanation of how to use IFSF payment standards in conjunction with the OCPI and OCPP standards to support bank and fuel card payment at EV charging stations with full integration with existing loyalty solutions. With the implementation of the European Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulations (AFIR), Ian's presentation generated a lot of interest from the audience and he encouraged the delegates to read the full white paper which is available on the IFSF website and to join the upcoming EFT work group meetings to learn more about the work that IFSF is doing in this area.

Driving innovation & enhancing competitiveness through the use of IFSF standards

Rui Dias, Product Manager at Petrotec, kicked off day two of the conference by sharing how Petrotec are driving innovation and enhancing competitiveness for the entire mobility value chain, empowered by the use of IFSF and OpenRetailing standards. He challenged the perception that standardisation can be in contradiction with innovation. He provided multiple examples of how using IFSF forecourt, security, payment and loyalty standards enable Petrotec to focus on innovating and delivering differentiated solutions that bring added value and efficiency for their customers. Examples included their multi-media pumps, forecourt

controllers, POS and indoor payment terminals, outdoor payment terminals, Hydrogen dispensers and EV chargers. Leveraging open standards, Petrotec are well placed to deliver the required solutions for the mixed multi energy forecourts of the future.

Supercharging the OpenRetailing Data Dictionary using Gen AI

David Ezell, Director of new initiatives at Conexxus, shared the work that he has been doing to make the joint IFSF and Conexxus (OpenRetailing) Data Dictionary more useful and powerful. He opened by explaining the benefits of the Data Dictionary such as an improved software development environment and easier interoperability between organisations leading to a reduction in the total cost of ownership. He shared the plans for making improvements to the Data Dictionary including text searching based on hierarchical naming and cross references. Finally, he demonstrated the power of GenAI using a semantic query interface leveraging a large language model to enable developers to fast track the creation of new APIs that comply with the standard Data Dictionary model.

Interactive Working Sessions, Work Group Updates and API Simulator Demos

As always at the IFSF conference, there was excellent engagement and collaboration amongst the delegates

as the IFSF team shared what they had been working on during the past year and sought input on the work plans and priorities for the year ahead.

Thank you to our sponsors

The success of the IFSF 2024 conference was made possible with the generous support of our sponsors: Petrotec, OrionTech, and RapidRMS. Their contributions and shared commitment to driving innovation in the industry were invaluable.

Memorable networking opportunities

Beyond the insightful presentations and discussions, delegates enjoyed a cultural highlight with an exclusive tour and dinner at Taylor's Port Cellars. This unique experience provided a relaxed setting for further networking while celebrating the heritage of Portugal's iconic port wine.

Looking ahead

The IFSF extends its heartfelt thanks to all delegates, speakers, and sponsors who contributed to the success of this year's event. Together, we've set a strong foundation for continued collaboration and innovation in driving the future of sustainable fuelling.

Stay tuned for updates on next year's conference and IFSF's ongoing initiatives. Let's keep the momentum going!

IFSF Work Groups Update

IFSF EFT & Payments Work Group

This Work Group, chaired by Ian 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; Updates to the security standard and key management standard have been released, an update to the Telecoms security standard is in progress.

- An update to the P2F/H2H ISO 8583 standards to add support for incremental authorisations which are required for EV charging

- A white paper providing recommendations for the combined use of IFSF payment standards and OCPP/OCPI EV standards on the forecourt has been published. This will now be extended to cover pricing and reconciliation. Work is also planned on plug and charge.

- The development of an IFSF standard for two factor authentication for fuel cards similar to EMV 3D secure

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)

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:

- Updating the quality of the items in the Data Dictionary by removing redundant entries and providing clearer information in the description field

- Discussing new items to be included in a new Data Dictionary version (e.g. usage of American English instead of UK English, adding a new time zone field, usage of the transmission id field for connect messages etc.)

- Progressing agreed solutions for updating the design guidelines (e.g. operation id, return codes from load balancers, etc.)

- Activities for static and semantic searching in the Data Dictionary

Leading to a new version of the published standard documents and a new version of the Data Dictionary.

Current standards include:

- API design rules for JSON and OAS

- API implementation Guides

- API Data Dictionary version 1.5

- API data dictionary White Paper

- New version of specification validator program

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:

- Working to publish the new version 2.0 as a standard and defining scope for an updated version of the Mobile Payment API Standard

Current standards include:

- Mobile payment version 2.0 (December 2024) including Pay at pump flow, Outside Post Pay and car wash outside use cases

Joint POS-EPS Work Group

This Work Group, organised jointly with Conexxus, focuses on the ongoing development and maintenance of an API-based version of the POS – EPS standard as a common global standard.

Current activities and processes are focused on:

- Development of v1.1 of the POS-EPS API to include Loyalty handling and Host-based prompting. This new version is due to be released in the next few months.

Current standards include:

- POS-EPS API (v1.0)

FORUM

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 Working Group is currently working on the following:

1. A new version of the FDC API standard including functionality with the most recent XML specification and Hydrogen functionality

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

3. A controlling device to price pole API interface which will allow for direct control of the price pole from any controlling device (e.g., POS);

4. A controlling device to tank level gauge API interface which will allow for direct control of the tank level gauge from any controlling device (e.g., POS).

5. Common forecourt database API's to control configurations on forecourt devices

Items 3,4 and 5 above are now in the Public comment period and are expected to be published as standards in January 2025

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. Presently discussions are held in the working group related to the following items:

- Inclusion of the specific Conexxus US standards also in the new global Car Wash API standard

- Discussing adaptions of API Documentation, Security Document and Implementation Guide

The new standard will cover business requirements, flows charts and car wash alarms for:

- 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

New Work Groups for Pricing and Wet Stock Management!

Two new work groups will be formed jointly with Conexxus in the new year to develop new global standards for Pricing and Wet Stock Management. Please contact admin.manager@ifsf.org for more details and to register your interest.

More information on IFSF's current activities and standards can be found on the IFSF website (https://ifsf.org/work-groups/) and the standards developed jointly with Conexxus are available in the Open Retailing GitLab (https://gitlab.openretailing.org/).

Stay connected: update your communication preferences today

We want to make sure you're informed about the IFSF work groups that matter most to you. By keeping your communication preferences up to date, you can stay in the loop with important updates, meetings and developments that are relevant to your interests and role.

Why Update Your Preferences?

This helps you receive timely notifications and invites to meetings that align with your areas of focus. This way, you'll never miss out on the chance to contribute, collaborate and stay informed about the latest developments in your chosen work groups.

How to Update Your Work Group Preferences

It's quick and easy, just follow these steps:

1. Access the Preferences Page: Visit the IFSF Communication Preferences page or scan the QR code at the bottom of this page:

2. Login: Ensure you are logged in to your IFSF account. If you are not logged in, you'll be prompted to log in.

3. Creating an Account: If you do not have an account, create one here by following the simple instructions.

4. Select Your Work Groups: Once logged in, review and update your work group preferences to ensure you're subscribed to the groups you wish to attend. You can find out more about the various Work Groups and view upcoming meetings in our Events Calendar.

IFSF Standards & 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.

FORUM