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**ACIF**

A large, light blue decorative swirl graphic dominates the background of the page. It starts from the left edge and curves inward, then spirals outwards towards the bottom right, creating a dynamic, flowing visual element.

**ACIF G563:2001**

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY FORUM

**Supporting arrangements for the  
supply of Digital Subscriber Line (DSL)  
Customer Equipment**

***Supporting arrangements for the supply of Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) Customer Equipment***

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## FOREWORD

### General

This document was prepared by the ACIF Working Committee CECRP/WC10 on Addressable Devices. This document is the result of a consensus among representatives on the ACIF Working Committee to produce it as an ACIF publication.

This document specifies support arrangements for supply of DSL Customer Equipment (CE) under AS/ACIF S043.2 [3].

Note: AS/ACIF S043 [1] is the designation of the multi-part Standard that refers to all the Parts of that Standard.

The document proposes information that should be provided to consumers and retailers about the purchase of DSL CE and services that make use of it.

It also indicates processes to assist suppliers of DSL CE to verify that their CE is interoperable with the equipment of a Carriage Service Provider.

### Document revision

Publications developed by the Australian Communications Industry Forum (ACIF Publications) are updated, according to the needs of the industry, by amendments or revision. Users of ACIF Publications should make sure that they possess the latest amendments or editions. Representations concerning the need for a change to this ACIF Publication should be addressed to:

The Project Manager  
Customer Equipment and Cable Reference Panel  
The Australian Communications Industry Forum  
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Milsons Point NSW 1565

# SUPPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

## Table Of Contents

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|    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1  | Scope   | 1 |
| 2  | References  | 1 |
| 3  | Document review                                     | 1 |
| 4  | Definitions and abbreviations                       | 1 |
| 5  | General advice                                      | 1 |
| 6  | Provision of information to consumers and retailers | 1 |
| 7  | Pre-supply provision                                | 2 |
| 8  | Interoperability assessment requirements            | 2 |
| 9  | Recommended behaviour                               | 2 |
| 10 | Establishment of common technical requirements      | 2 |

## Participants

The ACIF Working Committee that developed this Standard consisted of the following organisations and their representatives:

| <b>Organisation</b>                                | <b>Membership</b> |
|--|-------------------|
| Australian Communications Authority                | Non-voting        |
| Australian Communications Industry Forum           | Non-voting        |
| Australian Telecommunications Industry Association | Non-voting        |
| Cable & Wireless Optus                             | Voting            |
| Ericsson Australia                                 | Non-voting        |
| Lucent Technologies                                | Voting            |
| NEC Australia                                      | Voting            |
| Nortel Networks Australia                          | Voting            |
| Telstra  | Voting            |

## 1 Scope

These supporting arrangements set out—

- (a) information about DSL Customer Equipment (CE) that should be made available to consumers and retailers; and
- (b) requirements for a process for suppliers of DSL CE to be able to verify interoperability with Carriage Service Providers' equipment.

## 2 References

|     | Publication                      | Title   |
|-----|----------------------------------|---|
|     | <b>Australian/ACIF Standards</b> |   |
| [1] | AS/ACIF S043                     | Requirements for Customer Equipment for connection to a metallic local loop interface of a Telecommunications Network |
| [2] | AS/ACIF S043.1:2001              | Part 1: General   |
| [3] | AS/ACIF S043.2:2001              | Part 2: Broadband   |

## 3 Document review

Review of this document will be conducted at least as frequently as review of AS/ACIF S043.1[2].

## 4 Definitions and abbreviations

For the purposes of this document, the following definitions and abbreviations apply:

**ACIF** means the Australian Communications Industry Forum Limited.

**AS** means an Australian Standard.

**Carriage Service Provider** has the meaning given by section 87 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997*.

**Customer Equipment** (CE) has the meaning given by section 21 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997*

**DSL** means Digital Subscriber Line

**Metallic Local loop** has the meaning given by AS/ACIF S043.1 [2]

**Supplier** means a manufacturer, importer of Customer Equipment or their nominated agent.

## 5 General advice

Suppliers are advised that the relevant Parts of AS/ACIF S043 [1] apply.

## 6 Provision of information to consumers and retailers

It is recommended that suppliers provide information to retailers and consumers indicating with which Carriage Service Providers' equipment their DSL CE is interoperable.

The information should include advice that consumers should only purchase DSL CE after confirming with their intended Carriage Service Provider that—

- (a) their metallic local loop can support a DSL service; and
- (b) the type of DSL CE being purchased will interwork with the DSL service provided by their Carriage Service Provider.

Note: The type of DSL could be indicated in terms of the Equipment Class or typical technology as in Table 1 of AS/ACIF S.043.2 [3].

### **7 Pre-supply provision**

It is recommended that suppliers should not supply DSL CE to the market unless it has been subject to interoperability verification under Clause 8.

### **8 Interoperability assessment requirements**

- 8.1 Carriage Service Providers should establish a fair process that allows suppliers of DSL CE complying with AS/ACIF S043.2 [3] to verify interoperability with their equipment.
- 8.2 Carriage Service Providers should provide a written statement of requirements that are needed to ensure interoperability and how compliance is to be demonstrated, including any trials or testing that must be done.

### **9 Recommended behaviour**

- 9.1 Carriage Service Providers or other persons specified in the assessment requirements should ensure that—
  - (a) no supplier is excluded from the assessment process; and
  - (b) no supplier is to be given unfair priority over any other.

### **10 Establishment of common technical requirements**

- 10.1 Carriage Service Providers should, to the extent possible, establish common technical requirements that—
  - (a) are based on international standards to the maximum extent;
  - (b) take account of global systems of assessment or certification, or both; and
  - (c) seek to minimise the extent of specific individual requirements.

The Australian Communications Industry Forum Ltd (ACIF) is a communications self-regulatory body established in 1997 by the industry to manage communications self-regulation within Australia.

The primary role of ACIF is to develop and administer Standards, Industry Codes of practice and industry support services that promote both the long-term interest of end-users and the efficiency and international competitiveness of the Australian communications industry.

ACIF is an industry initiative, funded and resourced by the industry, with a membership that encompasses all industry sectors. ACIF comprises a Board, Advisory Assembly, Executive, six standing Reference Panels and a number of task-specific Working Committees.

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