



Release of new European BACnet Conformance Test

BIG-EU initiates the most comprehensive conformance test according to DIN EN ISO 16484-6

13.08.2007, Dortmund – BACnet Interest Group Europe (BIG-EU) expects its new BACnet Conformance Test, set up after the DIN EN ISO 16484-6, to be very prevalent in the industry for standards testing. Starting on August 17, BACnet Members can sign up to test their products against the new conformance standard. Harald Bitter, owner of the test center, WSPLab has already seen great interest in the new BACnet test. The plan is to have the conformance documents and certificates available in time for the Light+Building 2008 exhibition in Frankfurt, Germany. The timely release will increase the number of manufacturers testing their devices in order to meet the rising demand in requirements from building owners.

To cope with the number of sign-ups, the tests offered before Light+Building will be limited to one device per manufacturer. The participation in a pre-test workshop is strongly recommended. "The manufacturers need to carefully prepare," explains Frank Schubert, an advisor from the BIG-EU. "They cannot afford delays during the long test period."

The test will be given at the WSPLab in Stuttgart. The new BACnet Test Framework (BTF) software will be used to administer the exam. The software, developed in Europe, significantly reduces the testing effort, allowing, for the first time, full examination and documentation of the BACnet Interoperability Building Blocks (BIBBs), that are components of the BACnet-Building-Controller-Profile. As a result, the BIG-EU can now offer, worldwide, the most comprehensive BACnet Conformance Test.

Timetable of the BTL-Mark

Following is the timetable of the new BACnet test as outlined by the BIG-EU:

- Due to the development of the BTF Tools an automated test has been designed.



- At the end of January the new tool was presented to the very interested American Test Workgroup (BTL-WG).
- In order to avoid time consuming iterations during the test phase, two-day pre-testing workshops will be offered. The next workshop will take place on 13-14 September in the city of Krefeld.
- Manufacturers need to keep their devices ready for testing from September 17 to October 12.
- After this the tests will be carried out. Those who successfully pass the test can apply for a certificate from WSPCert.
- On request, the BIG-EU will allow products that pass the test to carry the conformance logo – the BTL Mark. The mark of the American BACnet Testing Laboratories is the worldwide uniform indication of tested BACnet conformity.

Light+Building 2008 is a place where companies can showcase their newly certified BACnet components which carry the BTL logo ensuring the products' operability in open BACnet systems. For information on pre-test workshops, email the BIG-EU at: vonhelden@mardirect.de. For information about the conformance test, email the WSPLab at: thomas.kurowski@wsplab.de.

Picture texts:

- 1) The BTL Mark is the worldwide uniform indication of tested BACnet conformity.
- 2) Manufacturer's timetable to prepare for the BACnet Conformance Test: the first pre-test workshop has already taken place with the maximum participants allowed. The second workshop will be on 13-14 September. Registration for the BACnet Conformity Test begins on August 17.

About the BIG-EU

The BACnet Interest Group Europe e. V. (BIG-EU) promotes the application of the worldwide BACnet communication protocol ISO 16484-5 in European building automation and safety engineering. It was founded in 1998 by 18 companies dealing with building automation. Today it has 70 members from Czechia, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, England, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Canada, the Netherlands, Austria, Switzerland and the USA. The BIG-EU represents European interests in the worldwide development of the BACnet standard. Therefore, the BIG-EU interacts with the American BACnet Manufacturer Association (BMA) and the ASHRAE Standing Standard Project Committee SSPC 135, which is assigned by the ISO the care of the BACnet standard. The BIG-EU increases BACnet knowledge in Europe with common marketing and qualification offers. For further information see www.big-eu.org/.

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