



Avoiding Fragmentation through Standards Development

Open Source in Mobile,

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OMA – The Open Mobile Alliance

“ VISION

**No matter what device I have,
No matter what service I want,
No matter what carrier or network I'm using,
I can communicate, access and exchange information.**

The Open Mobile Alliance is an international organization, developing open, market driven interoperable specifications for global adoption of data services.

OMA runs a robust Interoperability Testing Program, where all level of members test product implementations in a trusted zone.

OMA was created in June 2002 by leading mobile operators, device and network suppliers, information technology companies, content and service providers.

Fragmentation

- Standards prevent fragmentation
 - However, standards implementation can cause fragmentation if the specifications are of poor quality or incomplete
 - Solid standards take time to create, time well spent
- Standards compete
 - Different standards for a given service or application
 - Competition occurs between standards organizations just like between companies
 - Good standards bodies cooperate and scope their activity to avoid duplication, divergence and overlap

Interoperability

- Interoperability is the cornerstone for any standard or standards organization
 - Innovation, Differentiation and Adoption are enabled on a global scale
- Industry balances core interoperability
 - Industry knowledge is key to understanding depth of standards
- Interoperability testing provides opportunity to evaluate innovative implementations prior to market entry

Market Needs

- Market driven requirements make good standards
 - Market driven approach and commitment to testing supports innovation of new and evolution of existing products and services
 - Practical market experience informs what works and what does not
- Absence of clearly identified and committed market requirements creates a bad standard
 - Don't solve a problem where a problem does not exist

Summary

- Standards can prevent fragmentation
- Interoperability is the cornerstone for any standard or standards organization
- Market driven requirements make good standards