

OVERVIEW & MISSION

The Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) Forum is an international industry forum accelerating the adoption of multi protocol label switching and its associated technologies. Formed in early 2000, it serves as a meeting ground for companies that are creating or deploying products that implement MPLS. Its mission is to advance the successful deployment of multi-vendor MPLS networks and their associated applications. The Forum will achieve this through interoperability initiatives, implementation agreements, and education programs.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- ▶ Real-time knowledge on the latest innovations in MPLS technology.
- ▶ Influence the direction and/or content of a particular MPLS technology or protocol.
- ▶ Network and develop contacts with key influencers and companies that set the direction and/or content of the particular MPLS technology or protocol that directly effects your organization's strategic direction or profitability.
- ▶ Gain Access to potential partners and/or customers in your particular relevant MPLS markets.
- ▶ Learn advanced information about how your partners, customers and/or competitors view new innovations -- in particular MPLS technologies, protocols, and markets.
- ▶ Leverage the MPLS Forum market awareness tools and collateral for your organization's personal use and benefit.
- ▶ Discounts on MPLS Forum events such as tutorials and seminars
- ▶ Leverage participation in industry marketing events like tradeshows, conferences and seminars for speaking opportunities and increased coverage by the industry editors, journalists and analysts.

FORUM WORKING GROUPS AND COMMITTEES

The **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE** is actively working on more MPLS interworking specifications with other key technologies. The work is spread worldwide: more and more untapped regions are coming to the MPLS Forum for guidance on building next-generation networks.

The **MARKETING AWARENESS & EDUCATION COMMITTEE** educates the public and press/analysts with worldwide education seminars, computer-based training, white papers, case studies and presentation development.

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

The MPLS Forum is comprised of representatives from networking, service provider, component, and test equipment companies. Membership is open to both organizations and individuals. There are two classes of membership:

Principal Membership
\$12,000/year (USD)

Small Company Principal Membership
(designed for those companies with annual revenues less than \$10M USD)
\$6,000/year (USD)

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

PRINCIPAL MEMBERSHIP

Principal Membership in the MPLS Forum entitles the member company to attend all annual, general and special meetings of the Forum, as well as all committee meetings of the Forum. Principal Members are entitled to:

- ▶ One vote on all Forum issues
- ▶ Access to working documents, meeting minutes, educational materials and e-mail mailing lists
- ▶ Run for Board of Director and Committee officer positions
- ▶ Submit and comment on Technical Committee and Marketing Committee contributions
- ▶ Discounts to MPLS sponsored events

SMALL COMPANY PRINCIPAL MEMBERSHIP

Small Company Principal Members are entitled to the same privileges as Principal Members. Small Company Principal Members must have had revenues of under \$10 million in the previous year to qualify for this membership class.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information please contact Alexa Morris at amorris@mplsforum.org or call +1.510.608.5914. To join the MPLS Forum: please go to <http://www.mplsforum.org/MPLS2001application.pdf>; download the application, fill it out and fax or mail it to: The MPLS Forum / 39355 California Street, Suite 307 / Fremont, CA 94538 / Fax 510.608.5917.

OVERVIEW

The MPLS Forum Technical Committee is actively working on more MPLS interworking specifications with other key technologies. The work is spread worldwide: more and more untapped regions are coming to the MPLS Forum for guidance on building next-generation networks.

CHARTER

- ▶ To serve as a technical meeting ground for companies that are creating or deploying products that implement MPLS, or services that depend on the capabilities introduced by MPLS and its associated technologies.
- ▶ To promote worldwide compatibility and interoperability between different implementations of MPLS.
- ▶ To facilitate interoperability testing.
- ▶ To facilitate the support of a wide range of applications enabled by the technology.
- ▶ To identify, select, augment as appropriate, and publish MPLS implementation agreements drawn up from the appropriate international standards.
- ▶ To provide input to appropriate national and international standards bodies.

ACTIVITIES

There are currently two working groups within the Technical Committee: the Interoperability Working Group and the Applications & Deployment Working Group

INTEROPERABILITY WORKING GROUP

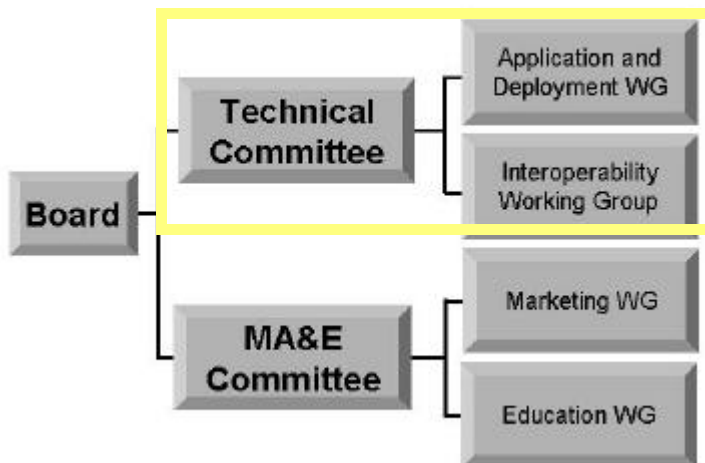
The Interoperability Working Group focuses on interoperability issues, including such items as functional test plans, conformance requirements documents, performance criteria and implementation agreements that will reduce the large number of options in the MPLS standards, to allow vendors and service providers to implement fully interoperable MPLS networks and associated applications.

APPLICATIONS & DEPLOYMENT WORKING GROUP

The Applications & Deployment Working Group specifies implementation agreements related to a wide range of applications enabled by the MPLS technology, and to assist in MPLS service provider deployments. These implementation agreements will enable interoperability of existing MPLS applications and the creation of new applications as appropriate in order to advance the state of MPLS technology and industry deployment.

Example Work Items:

- ▶ Voice over MPLS
- ▶ MPLS User to Network Interface (UNI)
- ▶ MPLS Network to Network Interface (NNI)
- ▶ MPLS Interworking with other networking technologies
- ▶ MPLS-based infrastructure convergence



MAILING LIST

Technical committee announcements, liaison information:

mpls-tc@mplsforum.org

MARKETING AWARENESS AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

OVERVIEW

The Marketing Awareness & Education Committee educates the public and press/analysts with worldwide education seminars, computer-based training, white papers, case studies and presentation development.

CHARTER

- ▶ To increase market and user awareness of the benefits of deploying MPLS based solutions and to build awareness for MPLS technology.
- ▶ To manage and operate the Forum web site and all forum outbound marketing activities.
- ▶ To serve as the outbound marketing resource for Forum activities in trade shows, conferences, and industry events.
- ▶ To act as a central reference of resources useful to those with an interest in MPLS.
- ▶ To create and deliver educational tutorials on MPLS operation and applications.

ACTIVITIES

There are currently two working groups within the Marketing Awareness & Education Committee: the Marketing and Events Working Group and Education Working Group.

MARKETING AND EVENTS WORKING GROUP

The Marketing and Events (MA&E) working group focuses on the coordination of industry trade shows, conferences, and events. The committee is also responsible for the MPLS Forum collateral and trade shows. Additional new work items include executing a public relations campaign and carrier deployment research.

EDUCATION WORKING GROUP

The education-working group focuses on the creation and delivery of half day and full day technical MPLS tutorials. The group is comprised of industry volunteers that have created tutorials for:

- ▶ Introduction to MPLS - full day
- ▶ MPLS VPNs - full day and half day versions
- ▶ GMPLS - half day
- ▶ Voice over MPLS - VoMPLS - half day

MAILING LIST

Marketing Awareness & Education committee announcements, liaison information:
mpls-mae@mplsforum.org

