Support for MSF Release 1 Architecture FAQs

Q1: What is the MSF’s motivation for supporting and promoting evolutionary models for the implementation of the MSF architectural vision?

A1: Simply stated...to stay grounded in reality. The MSF architectural vision of open, interoperable, multiservice networks is a significant undertaking. The reality is that major changes do not occur overnight and there are steps that will be taken along the way. If the MSF were to ignore this fact, and only embrace a pure implementation of the MSF vision, it would be acting blind to the realities of how major changes occur. In order to maximize the MSF’s relevance today, the MFS leadership sees it as vital that we support the evolutionary process and provide guidance and momentum toward the implementation of the end vision. As a result, the MSF will therefore acknowledge and recognizes the successes along the way as well as the success when the final goal is met.

Q2: What does support for the MSF Release 1 Architecture mean?

A2: It means that the supplier adheres to the functional requirements of the MSF Release 1 Architecture i.e., separation of media gateway, switching and media gateway control components as well as open interfaces that employ standardized multivendor protocols. From the perspective of the service provider it is a declaration that the service provider has deployed network components that meet these functional requirements and is committed to the evolution of strategic functionality. (See associated white paper, “MSF Release 1 Implementation Guidelines” for specific details.)

Q3: How can a vendor/supplier use the "Support for MSF Release 1" logo and Trademark?

A3: The "Support for MSF Release 1 Architecture" logo used in print (press releases, brochures, product descriptions, etc.), on the company website, media advertising (television, radio) and placed on the equipment itself. The declaration "Support for MSF Release 1 Architecture" can also be used on a product specification sheet. Only MSF Member companies can use the MSF logo; non-member companies are permitted to use the MSF Trademark “Support for MSF Release 1 Architecture” but not permitted to use the logo.

Q12: What is the difference between the MSF Logo and the MSF Trademark?

A12: The MSF “Support for MSF Release 1 Architecture” Logo is the MSF Starburst graphic surrounded by the words “Support for MSF Release 1 Architecture”. The MSF Trademark consists only of the words “Support for MSF Release 1 Architecture”.

Q4: How will the use of the logo be monitored to insure that the supplier/service provider meets the MSF Release 1 architecture requirements?

A4: The MSF does not plan to monitor the use of the logo - its use will be based on the honor system. It is the users responsibility to review the checklist provided in the "Support for MSF Release 1" Whitepaper and ensure all requirements are met. The use is viewed as self-monitoring by the industry to validate that the logo is not abused.
Q5: How will the logo and MSF Trademark (Support for MSF Release 1 Architecture) be handled for future MSF Architecture releases?

A5: As the MSF work evolves via the Architecture Agreements, Implementation Agreements, and Interoperability testing the requirements to use the logo and MSF Trademark will be updated accordingly e.g., Support for MSF Release 2. It is suggested that suppliers/service providers actively participate in MSF meetings in order to keep abreast of the functional requirements as they evolve.

Q6: Will non-MSF members be permitted to use the logo as well as members?

A6: Non-members will not be permitted to use the “Support for MSF Release 1” logo. Since the MSF seeks to promote industry acceptance and deployment of multiservice networks it will permit non-members, who meet the requirements, to use the MSF Trademark “Support for MSF Release 1 Architecture”. It is strongly urged that non-members become members in order to keep abreast of the requirements as they evolve. It should be noted that future issues of the Architecture Implementation Agreement would not be placed on the public side of the MSF website until they have passed final membership ballot.

Q7: When can companies begin to deploy the “Support for MSF Release 1 Architecture” Logo?

A7: Companies, who meet the requirements, can deploy the logo beginning April 1, 2002.

Q8: How will companies that use the logo but do not meet the requirements be handled?

A8: See question/answer number 4.

Q9: Where can I find the MSF Release 1 document and checklist?

A9: The MSF Release 1 documents and checklist can be found on the public side of the website under the Technical Information, Approved/Public Implementation Agreements http://www.msforum.org/techninf/approved.shtml.

Q13: Where can I find copies of the MSF Logo and Trademark?

A13: Both the Logo and Trademark can be found on the MSF Website at www.msforum.org. In order to download either the Logo or Trademark one must first read and sign the licensing agreement. After clicking on the “I Agree” button members will be able to download both the Logo and Trademark, non-members will be permitted to download only the Trademark.

Q10: How will future releases be made public

A10: Timing and announcements of future release will be communicated through MSF Technical Committee meetings, formal announcement to MSF Primary Representatives, and a Press Release. The MSF website (www.msforum.org) will be updated expeditiously upon any new release.
Q11: How does a company have its name and product(s) placed on the MSF website “Support for MSF Release 1 Implementation Guidelines” list?

A11: MSF member companies, who meet the “Support for MSF Release 1 Implementation Guidelines” criteria, should contact the Multiservice Switching Forum (info@msforum.org) to have their product(s) listed on the MSF “Support for MSF Release 1 Architecture” Product Page. This service is only available to MSF member companies.