



ATIS STANDARD

ATIS-0700035

ATIS Standard on -

**Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) 3.0
Service Description**



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Published by

Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions
1200 G Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005

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Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) 3.0 Service Description

Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions

Approved October 27, 2022

Abstract

This document provides a service description of the enhancements made to Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) as identified in FCC Report and Order publications made in the September 2016, January 2017, and June 2021.

Foreword

The Alliance for Telecommunication Industry Solutions (ATIS) serves the public through improved understanding between carriers, customers, and manufacturers. The Wireless Technologies and Systems Committee (WTSC) develops and recommends standards and technical reports related to wireless and/or mobile services and systems, including service descriptions and wireless technologies. WTSC develops and recommends positions on related subjects under consideration in other North American, regional, and international standards bodies.

The mandatory requirements are designated by the word *shall* and recommendations by the word *should*. Where both a mandatory requirement and a recommendation are specified for the same criterion, the recommendation represents a goal currently identifiable as having distinct compatibility or performance advantages. The word *may* denotes an optional capability that could augment the standard. The standard is fully functional without the incorporation of this optional capability.

Suggestions for improvement of this document are welcome. They should be sent to the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions, WTSC, 1200 G Street NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005.

At the time of consensus on this document, WTSC, which was responsible for its development, had the following leadership:

- M. Younge, WTSC Chair (T-Mobile USA)
- P. Musgrove, WTSC Vice Chair (AT&T)
- T. Brooks, WTSC SN Chair (T-Mobile USA)
- P. Musgrove, WTSC SN Vice Chair (AT&T)
- N. Rao, Technical Editor (Nokia)

The Systems & Networks (SN) subcommittee was responsible for the development of this document.

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Preface

The authority-to-individual emergency alerting capability to mobile devices was originally called Commercial Mobile Alert System (CMAS) in the first three Reports and Orders from the FCC. Regulatory terminology was originally based upon the CMAS terminology and CMAS was operational in April 2012. However, in February 2013, the FCC renamed Commercial Mobile Alert System (CMAS) to Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) with associated updates to the appropriate sections of Part 11 of the 47 CFR. Subsequently, the FCC has issued additional enhancements and rules for this government-to-individual emergency alerting capability to mobile devices and these are identified as modifications to WEA.

Consequently, this specification may use both the term CMAS and the term WEA. These terms should be considered as equivalent terms with WEA being the preferred term.

With the September 2016 FCC Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking [Ref 1], WEA was renamed in ATIS specifications to WEA 2.0, thereby renaming “legacy WEA” to WEA 1.0. With the January 2018 FCC Second Report and Order and Second Order on Reconsideration [Ref 2] the name WEA 3.0 was introduced. Consequently, the term WEA should be considered as equivalent with WEA 3.0 unless specifically mentioned otherwise.

1 Scope, Purpose, & Application

1.1 Scope

This document contains descriptions on how WEA operates. The requirements for WEA interfaces, network elements, and mobile devices are defined in other ATIS Standards, see Annex A.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide a service description of WEA 3.0 based upon the WEA enhancements identified in the September 2016 FCC Report & Order on WEA Enhancements [Ref 1] and any other identified WEA enhancements. The information contained in this document will assist the reader on understanding the relationships between the various WEA standards (see Clauses A.3, A.4, and A.5 of Annex A).

1.3 Application

This Standard is applicable to Commercial Mobile Service Providers (CMSPs), the Federal government entity responsible for the administration of the Federal Alert Gateway, the CMSP infrastructure providers, the mobile device manufacturers, the non-commercial educational (NCE) and public broadcast television station licensees, and the Alert Originators.

2 References

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this ATIS Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this ATIS Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below.