

(US) ION requests comment on GNSS software defined radio (SDR) metadata standard

It was announced by the (US) Institute of Navigation from its HQ in Manassas, Virginia, on 2 October that the Institute's GNSS Software Defined Radio Metadata Standard working group is seeking its second and final public comment on the standard through to 30 November, 2018.

In recent years there has been a proliferation of software defined radio (SDR) data collection systems and processing platforms designed for Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) receiver applications or those that support GNSS bands.

For post-processing, correctly interpreting the GNSS SDR sampled datasets produced or consumed by these systems has historically been a cumbersome and error-prone process, it is reported. This is because these systems necessarily produce datasets of various formats, the subtleties of which are often lost in translation when communicating between the producer and consumer of these datasets. This specification standardizes the metadata associated with GNSS SDR sampled data files and the layout of the binary sample files.

The GNSS SDR Metadata Standard defines parameters and schema to express the contents of SDR sample data files. The standard is designed to promote the interoperability of GNSS SDR data collection systems and processors. The metadata files are human readable and in XML format. A compliant open source C++ API for reading metadata and binary samples is also officially supported to promote ease of integration into existing SDR systems.

The formal standards document is available at: sdr.ion.org where comments may be made by clicking on "Submit a Comment."

Public comments are being accepted through to 30 November 2018.