

EARN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Proposal for SNA working group

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issued by
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EARN-SNA working group - Terms of reference

1. An EARN-SNA working group will be set up, and a distribution list will be provided (closed for membership, open for submission and review) to deal with all aspects of utilising SNA on the international backbone.

2. The following general principles will be enforced:

2.1 SNA is permitted only if it leads to better service at both network level (network management) and user level (existing services).

2.2 The use of SNA must be considered as a short term strategy, and must not prejudice the migration to OSI, which is the final objective.

2.3 When an international node runs NJE over BSC and SDLC on different international lines, the BSC line(s) should get the same performances as the SDLC line(s). In other words, service improvement should benefit all lines.

2.4 NJE being the primary application to run on EARN lines, other potential SNA applications may be permitted only if they do not interfere with or affect the performances of the NJE applications.

2.5 The use of SNA must be such that traffic statistic compatible with the format currently defined are gathered.

2.6 At least initially, SNA virtual circuits will be allowed only between EARN international nodes.

3 Members of the EARN-SNA group will include:

3.1 People appointed by the EARN directors of countries running or wishing to run SNA on an international line. These people must have

an very good practical knowledge of both EARN and SNA, (usually one person per country, with possibly two in countries deeply involved with SNA)

3.2 1 or 2 IBM SNA experts (provided that IBM accepts to appoint such people).

3.3 The people responsible for Development and Operations in the EARN EXEC or their deputy.

3.4 The EARN manager.

3.5 One representative of the EARN Network Operations Group.

3.6 People co-opted by the EARN EXEC. These people should include, if not appointed by countries, EARN expert on routing and addressing.

4 The initial objectives of the EARN-SNA group include:

4.1 To produce a document on the the different ways of running SNA, and explaining the impact they would have on EARN, if chosen.

4.2 To study the impact of interconnecting several SNA international lines and the different possible ways to do it (advantages, disadvantages..) and make a recommendation on this interconnection, as well as on the best way to achieve it, if recommended.

4.3 To study the impact of running SNA on traffic statistic gathering, and define how traffic data must be collected, in line with today's requirements.

4.4 To study the impact of running SNA on the EARN naming, routing and addressing processes, and make recommendations on modification of these mechanisms, if necessary. This includes the gathering of information on the different SNA naming conventions presently used in EARN.

4.5 To study the impact of connecting national SNA backbones to an SNA international nodes, and make recommendation on the possible authorisation of such a connection, as well as on the way to achieve it, if recommended.

4.6 To define, for each recommendation, the best way to implement it, and the setting of SNA parameter, where applicable.

4.7 Discussion on other SNA related topics (like new services) may also be addressed, but with lower priority.

5 Procedures

5.1 The group will draft an interim report within three months for consideration by the Executive on the existing use of SNA on international links.

5.1 For each recommended point, EARN directives and recommendations shall be drafted for official EARN approval, if the point is adopted by the EARN Executive committee.

6 EARN-SNA existing Documentation

6.1 SNA DOC From Paul Bryant

6.2 E88SNA MEMO from Jose Maria Blasco (discussed during the EARNTECH meeting in Tel-Aviv)

6.3 The minutes of the CERN meeting (mailed to EXEC on 16 December).