OPENCABLE SPECIFICATION CHANGE PROCESS

Overview

As Specifications are Issued, they become subject to the formal CableLabs Specification Change Process that is summarized below.

This process can be initiated by anyone with an interest in the specification at any time during the life of the issued specification. Engineering Change Requests (ECRs) should be submitted electronically to opencable-ec@cablelabs.com using the ECR form available at https://www.cablelabs.com/doczone/opencable/requirements/ecs/DocZoneFolder_view.

Any IPR included in an ECR is governed under the IPR Policy, which includes the right for CableLabs to incorporate such ECRs into relevant specifications, disclose such ECRs to members, vendors, and the public, and the commitment of the ECR Contributor to abide by the fair, reasonable, and non-discriminatory terms of the IPR Policy. If Licensee is claiming any intellectual property rights in an ECR submission, such rights should be specifically identified so that such property may be treated appropriately.

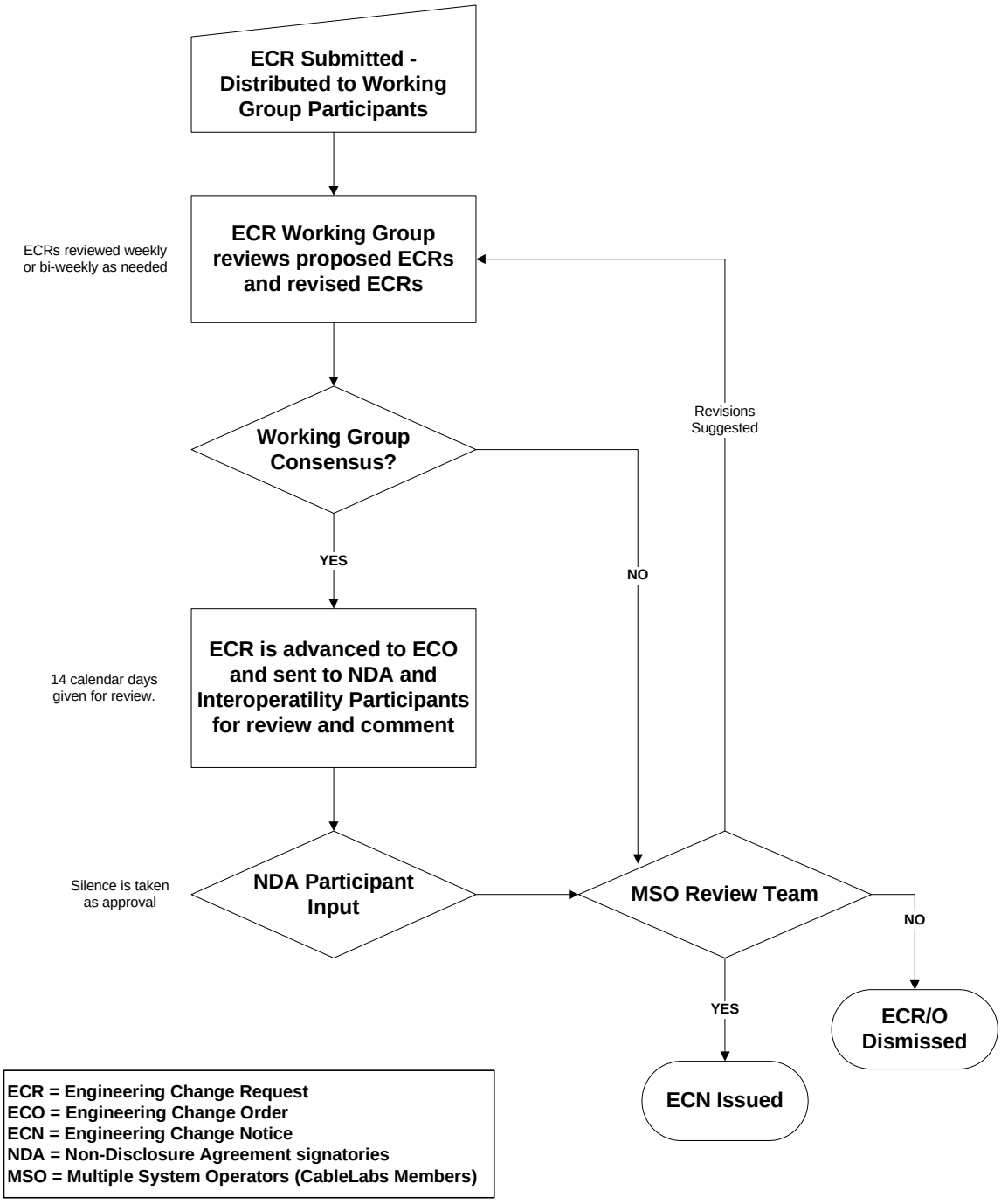
Due to the large numbers of vendors that have expressed interest in the Specifications, vendors should be aware that the CableLabs staff will not be able to provide individual responses to each vendor's ECR. Receipt of ECR submissions will be confirmed by email, either directly or by copying the author on the submission of the ECR to the appropriate Working Group. Please be assured that all ECRs will be duly considered. Final disposition of ECRs is at the sole discretion of the MSO Technical Review Team.

Upon receipt of an ECR, it will be assigned to the appropriate Working Group comprising vendors, MSOs, and CableLabs staff. Discussions of the Working Group may be held either via e-mail or teleconference. The goal of the Working Group discussions are to clarify any issues related to the ECR, identify impact on the specification and testing regime, make changes to the ECR or submit additional ECRs, and agree upon final wording for the ECO.

If a consensus is reached regarding the ECR, an Engineering Change Order (ECO) will be issued to all participants in the OpenCable Project that have executed the Confidential Information Access Agreement via email reflector (approx. 1000 companies). In order to make this process successful, participants must monitor the OpenCable reflectors to ensure that the proposed changes, and discussions/subsequent changes are for the greater good of the industry and not for any one particular vendor company. Upon approval of the ECO by the MSO Technical Team, an Engineering Change Notice (ECN) is issued.

The diagram and outline on the following pages provides an overview of the ECR, ECO, ECN process. This process is subject to change as reasonably determined by CableLabs.

OpenCable™ Engineering Change Process



ECR/ECO/ECN Review Process

ECR/ECO/ECN Review Process

- Engineering Changes (ECs) will be logged and assigned a sequential number.
- The ECR will be distributed by email and posted on DocZone to the appropriate Working Group for review and clarification. The ECR Working Groups are made up of MSO representatives, vendors with a specific technical expertise and interest in the affected technology and a willingness to actively participate in the Working Group, and CableLabs staff.
- Each ECR is reviewed by the appropriate Working Group until consensus is gained to advance it to ECO, or it is sent to the MSO Technical Team for direction. Discussions of the Working Group may be held either via e-mail or teleconference. The goal of discussions are to clarify any issues related to the ECR, identify impact on the specification and testing regime, make changes to the ECR or submit additional ECRs, and agree upon final wording for the ECO. Final disposition of the ECR is at the sole discretion of the MSO Technical Team.
- If approved, it becomes an Engineering Change Order (ECO).
- The ECO is posted on DocZone, goes to the full NDA Participant List and to the MSO Technical Team for comment and consensus (approx. 2-weeks). The review period may be reasonably shortened or extended by CableLabs. Silence is taken as approval. Changes may be made to the ECO based upon the comments received. Final disposition is made by the MSO Technical Team.
- Once approved, the ECO becomes an Engineering Change Notice (ECN).
- The ECN is posted on DocZone and becomes part of the Specification upon posting. Notice is given to the full Participant List.
- Unless agreed otherwise implementers must conform to the ECN by the Effective Date listed in the ECN.
- Accumulated ECNs are periodically incorporated into the Specification, and a new version of the specification is published.

ECR FORM Instructions

ECR's

- *Use Engineering Change Request Form (ECR) located at https://www.cablelabs.com/doczone/opencable/requirements/ecs/OC_ECR_Form.dot/attach/ECR_Form.dot.*
- *Can originate by anyone at anytime. Applies to Issued Specifications.*
- *One ECR can include all editorial comments for a given specification.*
- *One ECR must be submitted for each separate technical issue.*
- *All required information on the ECR Form must be supplied.*
- *Must be submitted electronically to opencable-ec@cablelabs.com.*

ECR Required Information

- *Full identity of person & company making submission*
- *Document Reference Number, Section Numbers*
- *Short Description of Proposed Change (title of the EC)*
- *Detailed Problem Statement*
- *Proposed Changes - How would you fix it (including redline to Specification)?*
- *Ramifications - What is the impact? It is the duty of the ECR submitter to identify any impacts to the PICS.*

See ECR form at http://www.cablelabs.com/downloads/cablelabs_ecr_form.rtf