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## **MEDIA INFORMATION FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **CASAGRAS PARTNERS AGREE VISION STATEMENT AND DEFINITION FOR INTERNET OF THINGS**

Partners from the EU Seventh Framework Programme, CASAGRAS (Support Action for global RFID-related standardisation activities involving organisations from China, Japan, Korea and the USA) made significant project progress when they met in Shanghai, China, last week.

They were able to critique seven white papers which will be published in Spring 2009 and as a result of this detailed work unanimously agreed a vision statement and definition for the Internet of Things.

Project co-ordinator Ian Smith (President AIM UK) emphasised the importance of the two descriptions. “We needed a simple one sentence ‘vision statement’ which would explain the potential of the Internet of Things to the widest possible global audience. Our partners believe the following achieves this objective:

**“A world where ‘things’ can automatically communicate to computers and each other, providing services for the benefits of human kind.”**

Prof. Anthony Furness, CTO of the European Centre of Excellence for AIDC, is the project’s technical co-ordinator. He had prompted the need for a technical definition of the Internet of Things and was equally pleased that the partners unanimously agreed the following statement:

**“A global network infrastructure, linking physical and virtual objects through the exploitation of data capture and communications capabilities. This infrastructure includes existing and evolving Internet and network developments. It will offer specific object-identification, sensor and connection capability as the basis for the development of independent federated services and applications. These will be characterised by a high degree of autonomous data capture, event transfer, network connectivity and interoperability.”**

The partners agreed that Global coding would be one of the most important considerations and challenges within the CASAGRAS project.

It was critical that the approach to this issue should accommodate legacy coding systems and provide an on-going basis for global coding with appropriate registration and support capability, linking too with issues of governance and revenue models.

The CASAGRAS partners from Korea saw the need for a three layer model, inclusive of data carrier, interface and resolver requirements. It was generally agreed that a resolver approach was necessary to accommodate the issues, including appropriate linkage to Internet-Protocol (IP) based systems. Experts within the CASAGRAS partnership will contribute to the resolver solution, and potentially a demonstrator model.

Representatives from major Chinese Government departments, academic and commercial institutions as well as leading RFID solution providers attended a one day workshop which was co-sponsored by GRIFS, another EU FP7 project. A second joint workshop was presented in Hong Kong later in the week.

The CASAGRAS project is due to present its final report and recommendations on June 18, 2009, with an open meeting in either London or Prague. Full details will be posted on the CASAGRAS website [www.rfidglobal.eu](http://www.rfidglobal.eu). Copies of the presentations in both Shanghai and Hong Kong are also available on this site.

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CASAGRAS is co-ordinated by AIM UK

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