Informal, In-process Feedback to the IoTAB from Recent Draft Reports

September 26, 2023 – IoT Advisory Board Meeting 7

Overarching

- Readers advocate for big vision but realistic, actionable expectations
  - Practical and actionable recommendations will be best received
  - For each, be sure to share what the significant and meaningful benefits to be provided by improved IoT adoption will be
  - Bolster discussion of the benefits likely to flow from IoT so that the full potential of IoT can more highlighted more explicitly
- Connect the dots between findings and Internet of Things
  - In many cases, we understand the connections but need to ensure they are clearly conveyed (some of that may already be in backgrounds provided)
  - Readers literally asked, "How is this relevant to IoT?"
  - An example of this was about drones – we know that Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) can be helpful for items like environmental monitoring and precision agriculture, but we need to show that work

Overarching (continued)

- Debate about voluntary vs mandatory
  - Some said, "What's the Point?" re: voluntary measures, while others recognized the benefits of industry-led federally-incentivized approaches
  - CTIA called for "A voluntary, flexible approach, without unnecessary regulatory barriers or overly prescriptive, one-size-fits-all standards"
  - The Board may need to recommend that the Working Group determine where mandates are needed
- IoT AB can better clarify how to harmonize standards in a meaningful way while retaining independence (not choosing winners or losers)
- Several felt that recommendations have already occurred
  - E.g., National broadband initiatives, spectrum legislation
  - We may want to point out what is different, if anything
  - It may be beneficial to have some topics where we can point to success

Topic specific – "Framework"

- The Secretariat did not provide sufficient clarity regarding the proposed "framework" for data usage and protection
- Framework is an overloaded term in the current environment
  - Need to gain consensus on what we mean, what it looks like, how it would be used
  - In draft reports, we have used unclear terms like taxonomy and schema but those may not be describing what is really needed or recommended
  - Board members may benefit from reading the following letter from 2019, which we will post to the meeting artifacts https://www.uschamber.com/assets/documents/2-7-19_multi-association_wh_letter_iot_cybersecurity_final.pdf

Topic specific – Standardization & Supply Chain

- Are there thoughts on how standards should be promoted?
  - Can you provide examples of how we could promote standards or protocols?
  - Are there existing standards useful?
- Interoperability is often driven by a market need to collaborate …
  - Would this be better driven by industry members?
  - Are there instances where that is insufficient or not happening?
- Similar questions regarding promotion and advocacy for supply chain logistics
  - Can the Board be more specific about how the augmented logistics recommendations will bring significant benefits?

Topic specific – EmT & SRMA recommendations

- There was not broad agreement that a specific office is needed, either in agencies nor at senior levels
  - It may be more successful to speak to the outcome desired rather than prescribing the solution

- Possible considerations:
  - have a government lead that would be responsible for …
  - have them develop a strategy that addresses the following areas …
  - hold them accountable with report metrics and progress tracking …
  - use the markets identified as important situations to monitor.

Topic specific – Public Private Partnership

- Do consortia or other types of stakeholder groups exist where this might already exist?

- What is the purpose of this partnership?
  - Is the intent to describe sustainability in the sense that they are smart cities that do not deplete natural resources and that address challenges of climate change and equity in cities?
  - Can we better draw the connection among IoT devices and improved sustainability in these areas?

Topic Specific – Sustainable Infrastructure

- Supporting Recommendation 6.6: The federal government should consider the specification and utilization of IoT and "smart" technologies into infrastructure and other projects that are funded in full, or partially, with federal funding.

- Could the group better describe the type of projects envisioned?

- Are they suggesting projects on water systems? Or the infrastructure bill? If they have something in mind it would be good to call it out.

Topic Specific – Sustainable Infrastructure

- The current recommendations link supply chain logistics with sustainability
  - Is this tied to the overarching use case that the US is facing challenges in logistics and that IoT enabled logistics is the answer. Why is it not happening?
  - Is it only cost that is the barrier? What risks are there that also need to be addressed. How does money make these risks go away?

Topic Specific – Sustainable Infrastructure

- Reference Models (former #6.8) - can you please define what's meant?
  - Would existing smart city consortia be better suited to take this on?
  - Should the Board recommend that government reach out to educational institutions
    - https://www.ctg.albany.edu/projects/smartcitiesconsortium
    - https://www.ogc.org/ogc-topics/idbe/
    - https://www.smartcitiescouncil.com