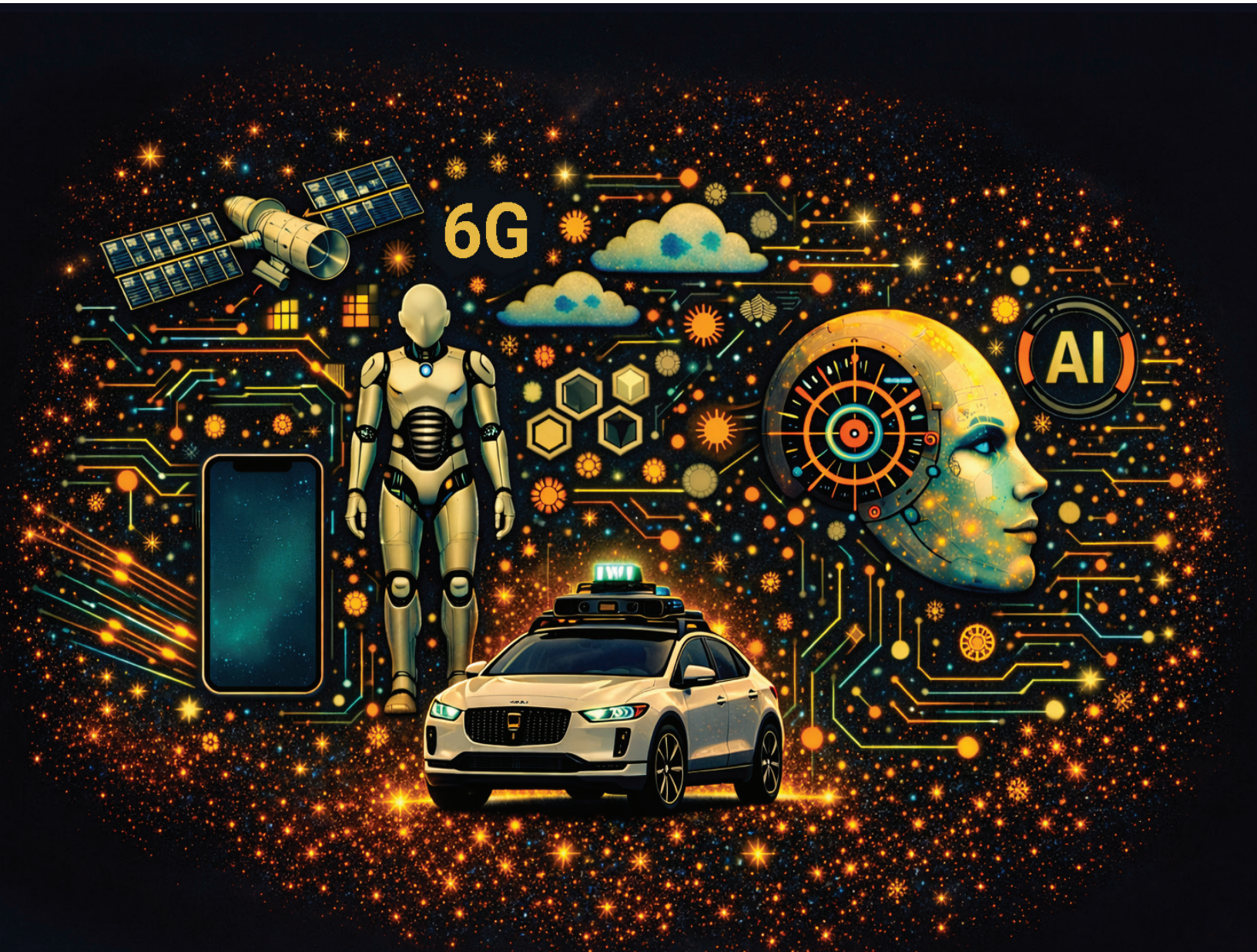
atis OVERVIEW 2026



Advancing ICT Industry Transformation

CONTENTS

From the President and CEO

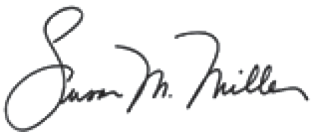
Welcome to the 2026 *ATIS Overview.* To read it is to learn about some of the most exciting initiatives that are transforming the information and communications technology (ICT) industry.

In a world of constant technological evolution intensified by geopolitical factors, ATIS solutions are consistent in their ability to address the industry's most critical challenges — and ensure our members are proactively prepared for the challenges on the horizon. The *Overview* highlights some of our most recent work across key strategic areas and looks ahead to what's in store for 2026 and beyond. Among the many areas covered are:

- **Quantum Computing:** ATIS is leading the industry's response to the unprecedented risks quantum technologies present to the digital security of our telecommunications infrastructure. We have developed a comprehensive suite of resources providing a roadmap for assessing quantum threats, securing 5G networks, and enabling cryptographic agility.
- **Artificial Intelligence and 6G:** As AI transforms the ICT landscape, ATIS is looking ahead to 6G and examining how future networks can support AI while mitigating its environmental impact.
- **Cybersecurity and Network Resilience:** Building on its cybersecurity solutions leadership, ATIS is advancing Enhanced 5G and Zero Trust Cloud and Operational Security Aspects. This work examines how Zero Trust Architecture can be implemented and operationalized in 5G cloud environments, while addressing evolving security requirements in the progression to 6G.
- **Global Leadership through 3GPP:** And, as the North American Organizational Partner for the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP), ATIS has established a strong base in hosting 3GPP Working Group and plenary meetings in North America. This gives our home region a strategic opportunities to drive North American leadership globally.

These are a few examples of how ATIS addresses our members' needs in an industry landscape in which rapid change is the only constant. As long as North American ICT leadership remains critical, so will ATIS initiatives. We hope you enjoy learning about how our work shapes the future. Stay up to date at atis.org.

Sincerely,



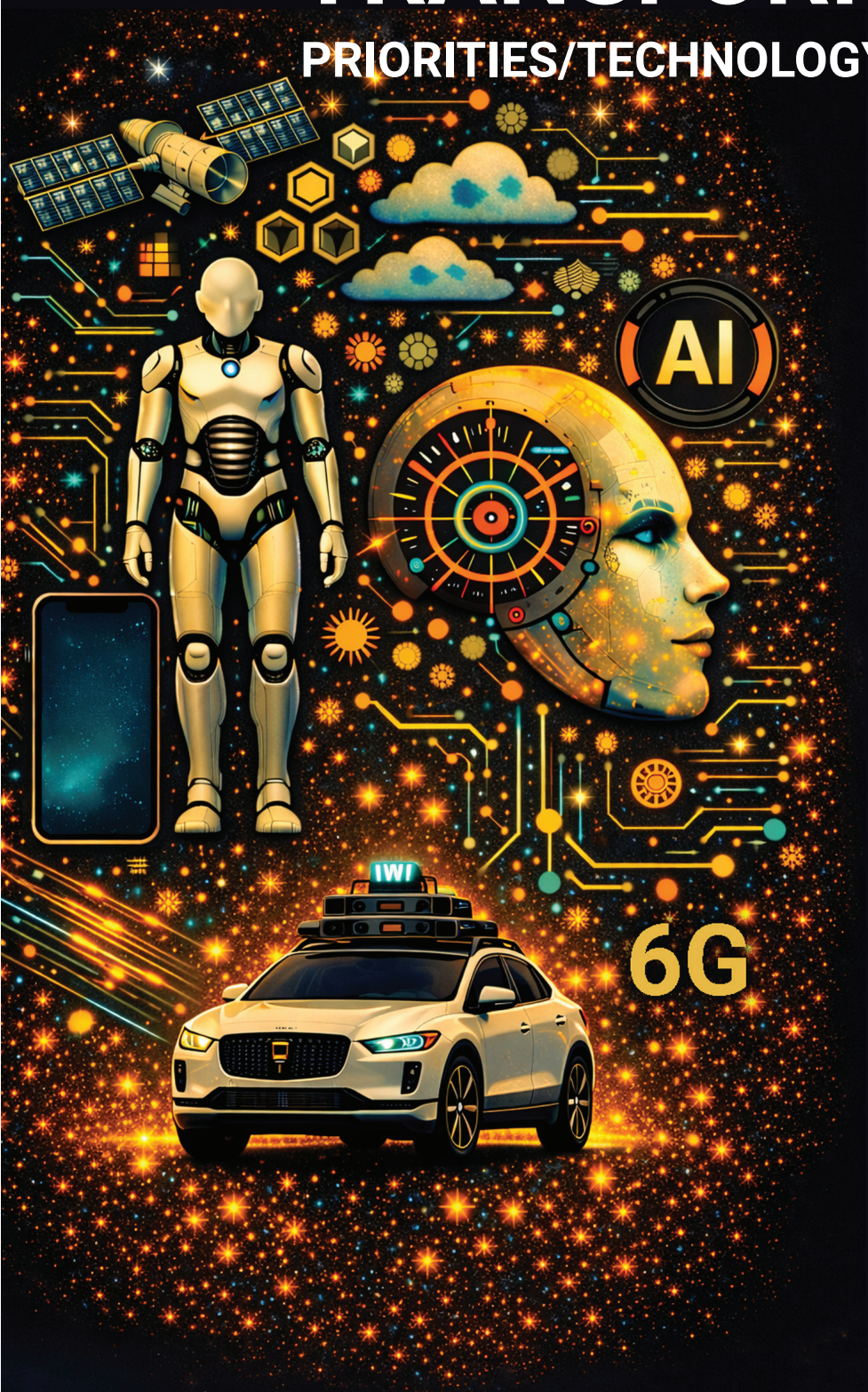
Susan M. Miller
ATIS President & CEO

ATIS Board Member Companies

10x People	1FINITY		AT&T	brightspeed
c spire wireless	Charter COMMUNICATIONS	ciena	cisco	cohere technologies
COMCAST	COX	DELL	ERICSSON	FUTUREWEI Technologies
GCI	Google	Hewlett Packard Enterprise	intel	interdigital
INTRADO	iridium	L3HARRIS™ FAST. FORWARD.	LUMEN	Marconi | Pacific
MAVENIR	Meta	Microsoft	motorola	NEBScore
NOKIA	Numeracle	NVIDIA	Qualcomm	SAMSUNG
SES	sinch	SOMOS	T-Mobile	TDS
TELNYX	TELUS	Transaction Network Services	TransUnion	verizon

ADVANCING INDUSTRY TRANSFORMATION

PRIORITIES/TECHNOLOGY FOCUS AREAS



National Accreditation and Global Leadership

ATIS is accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). ATIS is the North American Organizational Partner for the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP), a member of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Radiocommunication Sector, as well as a member of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL).

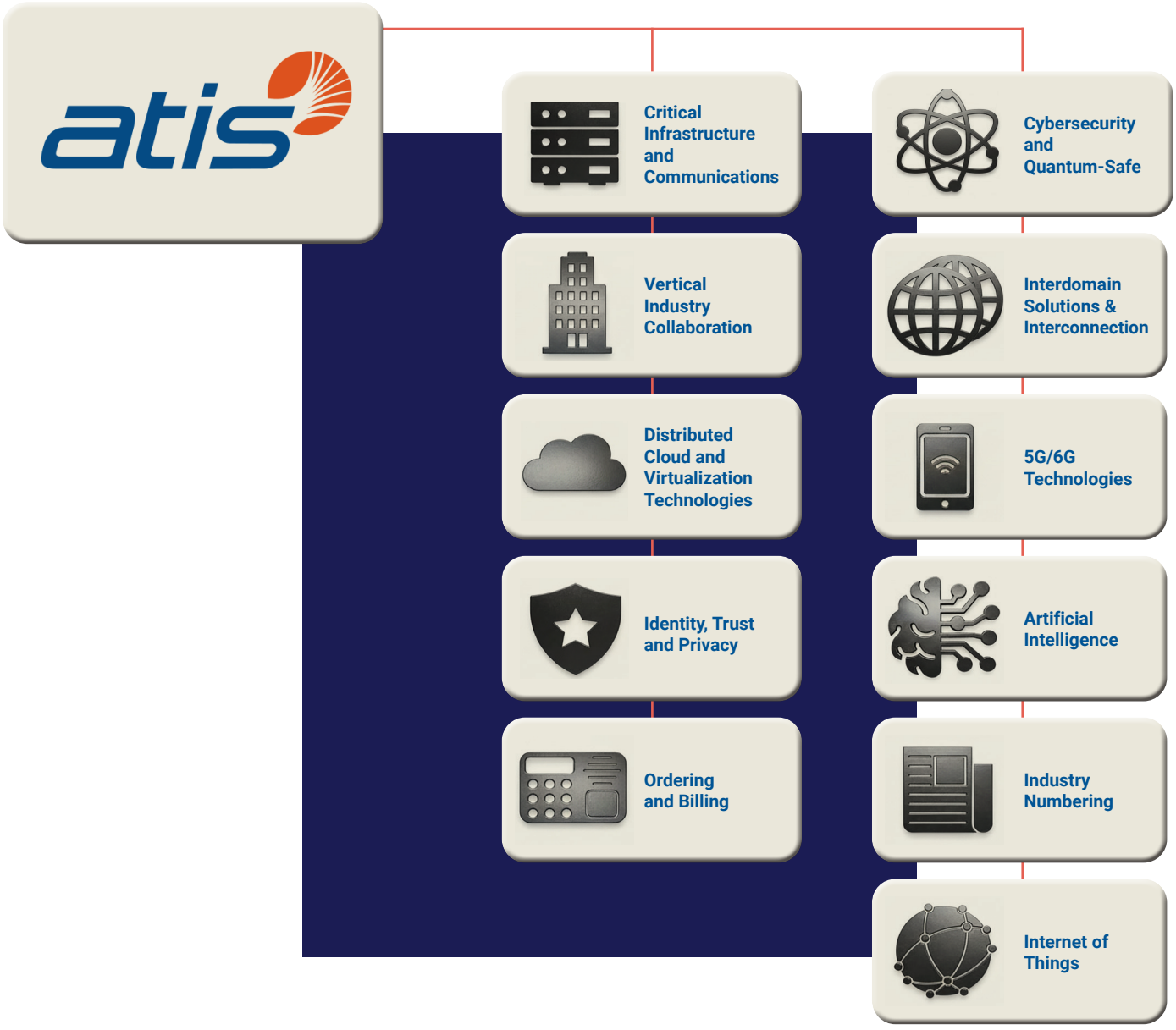
A Diverse and Robust Portfolio of Deliverables

ATIS brings the ICT industry together to deliver technology innovation for the future and address critical priorities. Here's how we create value:

> ATIS' strategic initiatives and solutions/standards work progresses new business opportunities, solves common industry challenges, and creates a platform for collaboration with other industries.
> Members innovate and compete using ATIS' foundational work. Collaborative efforts across industries can lead to greater scale and customer adoption.
> Identifying and defining where and how to align and collaborate are top priorities. Sharing resources, effort and costs to develop large-scale, interoperable solutions for a "common industry good" is both critical and beneficial to the industry. ATIS is the catalyst.

Technology Focus Areas

Our priorities change with member needs and the market. Current technology focus areas are shown below:



ATIS Overview

ATIS' robust portfolio includes strategic initiatives, technology and standards development, global partnerships and regulatory/policy advocacy.

Strategic Initiatives

Innovation Agenda

TOPS Council

Next G Alliance

Open Access Network Forum (OANF)

Special Initiatives (e.g., STI-GA)

Board-driven initiatives promoting technology assessments, adoption and foundational agreements

Technology/ Standards Development

ATIS Standards Development Committees

Specialized Committee activities covering emergency services, sustainability, wireless services, synchronization, interconnection, network reliability, and other areas

Global Partnerships

3GPP

ITU-R

Other Global Initiatives

Global specifications and standards alignment activities focused on large-scale interoperability and inter-working

Technology Policy

ATIS Regulatory and Policy Engagement

Advance industry's priorities at the intersection of technology policy through active executive branch, regulatory, and legislative engagement

ATIS Portfolio of Strategic Initiatives

- Next G Alliance – 6G and Beyond
- Generative AI Network Applications
- Cybersecurity
- Quantum-Safe Communication and Information
- Uncrewed Aerial Vehicles
- Digital Identity & User-Controlled Privacy

Technology and Operations Council

- AI Network Applications
- Telco APIs
- FWA RAN Optimization
- Content Classification for Traffic Optimization
- Enhanced Zero Trust and 5G
- Accelerating NA 5G Standalone Deployment

Next G Alliance

- Market and Applications WG
- Sustainable Dev WG
- Technology Roadmap WG
- Spectrum WG

Committees and Forums

- Automatic Identification & Data Capture Committee
- Emergency Services Interconnection Forum
- Industry Numbering Committee
- International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI) Oversight Council
- Network Reliability Steering Committee
- Next Generation Interconnection Interoperability Forum
- Open RAN Committee
- Ordering and Billing Forum
- Packet Technologies and Systems Committee
- SMS/800 Number Administration Committee
- Sustainability in Telecom: Energy and Protection Committee
- Synchronization Committee
- Telecom Management and Operations Committee
- Wireless Technologies and Systems Committee

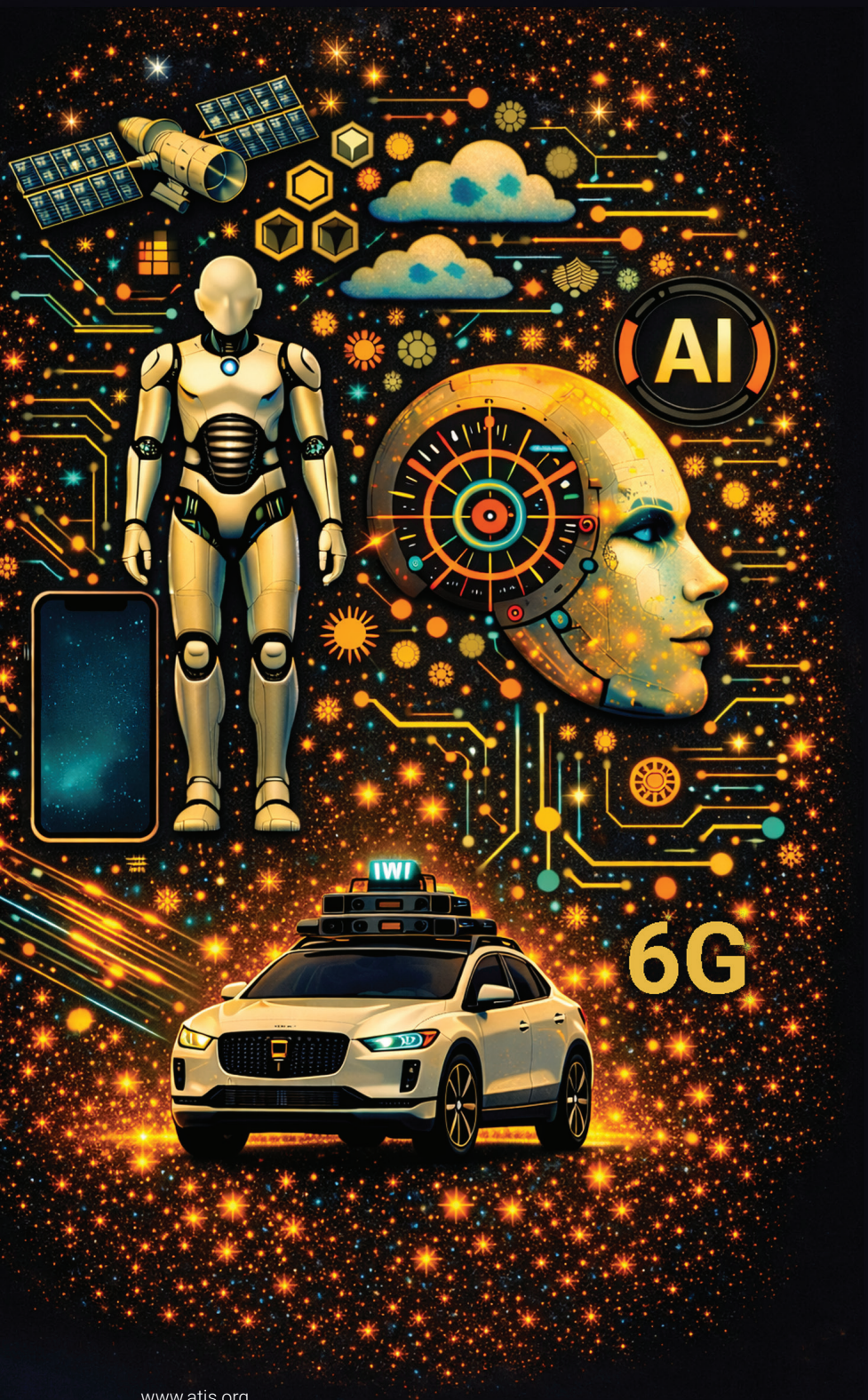
Special Initiatives

- Non-Terrestrial Networks
  - Satellite Feeder Link Optimization
  - Satellite-Terrestrial SCS Exclusion/ Coordination Zones
- ATIS/SIP Forum IP-NNI Joint Task Force
- Secure Telephone Identity Governance Authority
- Open Access Network Forum
- Open RAN MVP

International Partnerships

- 3GPP
- ITU-R
- Linux Foundation
- 6G Forum
- 6G Smart Networks and Services Industry Association
- Bharat 6G Alliance
- XG Mobile Promotion Forum

6G AND BEYOND



ATIS' Next G Alliance is building the foundation for North American leadership in 6G and beyond. Unparallelled in its breadth, depth, and scope of activities, the NGA is preparing the North American ICT industry for the future as well as for a broad range of revenue-generating opportunities in vertical markets.

NEXT G ALLIANCE
An ATIS Initiative

6G And Beyond: The Work Of ATIS' Next G Alliance

The North American 6G Authority

As the North American 6G Authority, the Next G Alliance (NGA) is delivering a host of new white papers to map the Next G future, contributing to an already extensive 6G Library. In addition to the publications, the NGA hosted major events to include the input of a broad range of verticals into the planning for the Next G network – and to learn what revenue-generating possibilities are available for the ICT industry.

In terms of 6G development, 2026 is an exciting year. From the ongoing 3GPP work to preparations for NTIA's Mission LA28 6G showcase, energy is building for the next generation of mobile wireless technology. NGA serves a valuable role in leading our industry's vision for how 6G must take shape to enable rapid adoption and commercial success in the North American market and to secure North American technology leadership.

Its 2026 priorities will focus on spectrum for 6G, technology leadership, economical sustainability, a continuation of our verticals work, and more. Keep up to date at nextgalliance.org.

Including Vertical Markets in Shaping the 6G Future

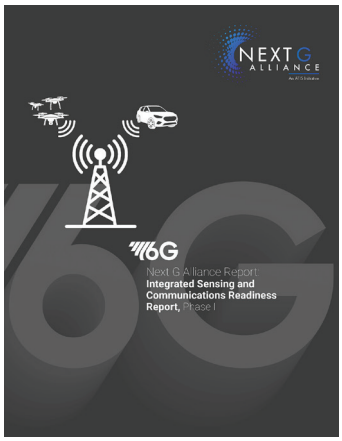
Vertical markets will be critical revenue drivers in the 6G era. With 6G standardization underway and 5G standalone networks continuing to roll out, the NGA is examining how telecommunications providers and vertical industries can work more effectively together to create value at all points along the technology roadmap.

To advance this effort, the NGA hosted a major workshop on cellular connectivity for vertical industries at the ATIS headquarters in Washington, D.C. Led by the NGA National Roadmap Working Group, the workshop focused on three priority sectors: agriculture, public safety, and utilities. Through presentations, panel discussions, and vertical-specific breakout sessions, participants identified key business needs, operational challenges, and current and future technology requirements across these industries.

Several common themes emerged:

- **Connectivity & Coverage** – For different reasons, all three verticals reported that today's public mobile wireless networks require improvements to meet their coverage needs. Potential solutions discussed included private networks, device-to-device (D2D) communications, portable or vehicle-mounted networks, and satellite/non-terrestrial network (NTN) connectivity.
- **Density** – Each vertical highlighted use cases requiring support for high device density, such as massive IoT sensor networks in agriculture, advanced smart metering in utilities, and sensor-enabled incident-site communications for public safety.
- **Expertise & Awareness** – Limited expertise in 3GPP-based technologies within the verticals remains a barrier to adoption. This challenge is compounded by the complexity of solutions designed primarily for large mobile network operators. Vertical industries often require simpler, more tailored network deployment and operation models. The workshop underscored the need for greater mutual awareness of vertical-industry requirements within the telecom ecosystem, and of telecom capabilities within the verticals.
- **Device Availability** – The current 4G and 5G device ecosystem is largely centered on consumer smartphones and tablets, offering few solutions that meet vertical-industry requirements such as ruggedization, ability to use devices while wearing gloves, and integration into systems such as power control or tractor operation. In addition, integrating 3GPP-based chipsets into vertical-industry supply chains remains challenging, as device suppliers for agriculture, public safety, and utilities in North America rarely overlap with the traditional mobile device ecosystem.

Learn more about the workshop findings and how ATIS is incorporating vertical industry requirements into 6G planning.

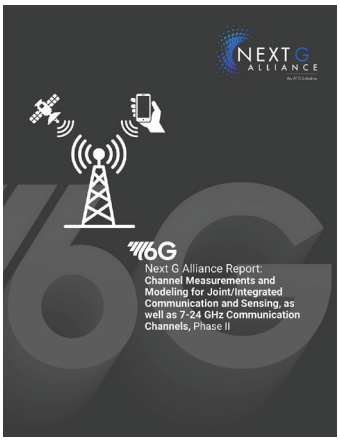


Integrated Sensing and Communication: A Transformative Capability Expected to Define the 6G Era

A paradigm shift in Next-Generation wireless networks.

Integrated sensing and communication (ISAC) introduces sensing as a native function of the communication network. By merging radar-like sensing and wireless communication into a single system, ISAC enables capabilities that extend far beyond today's networks. This integration empowers applications ranging from detecting the presence, movement, and characteristics of objects within network coverage to enhancing network performance through improved channel awareness.

Among the many white papers delivered in 2025, the NGA's *Integrated Sensing and Communications Readiness Report, Phase I*, is an industry-first analysis exploring how ISAC will position 6G as a driver of innovation across in areas such as smart homes, transportation, environmental monitoring, healthcare, manufacturing, and public safety, with a focus on distinctly North American priorities. Access the slides from the NGA ISAC webinar.



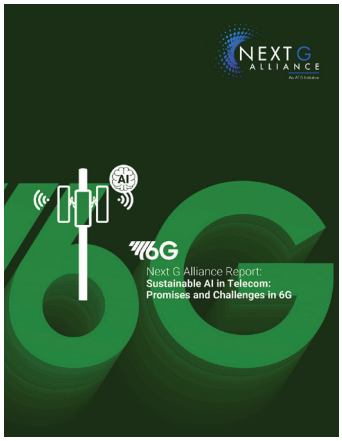
Channel Measurements and Modeling for Joint/Integrated Communication and Sensing

One of the industry's most comprehensive studies of integrated communication and sensing capabilities for future wireless systems.

Spectrum spanning 7–24 GHz, particularly the 7–15 GHz segment, is poised to play a pivotal role in next generation wireless, starting with 6G features. Among the six key usage scenarios identified for this band is Joint/Integrated Communication and Sensing (J/ICAS), which reuses existing telecommunications infrastructure for radiofrequency sensing with no need for active transmissions from objects being detected.

The NGA's *Channel Measurements and Modeling for Joint/Integrated Communication and Sensing Phase II* white paper builds upon the foundational measurements and models presented in the NGA's Phase I report on the topic. Phase I delivered initial channel modeling for both midband (7–24 GHz) and mmWave frequencies; Phase II extends the work by:

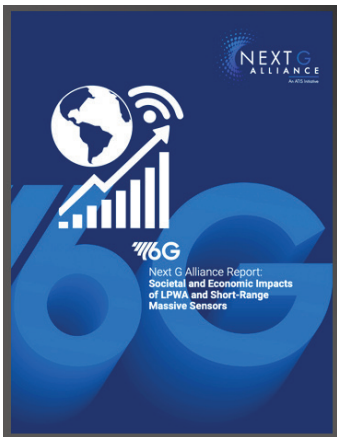
- Conducting additional measurements of communication channels across the 7–24 GHz range.
- Introducing enhanced sensing channel models that account for both target reflections and environmental interactions.
- Focusing on, among other areas, sensing background characterization in urban street canyon environments and providing a more rigorous sensing background channel model that captures the non-sparsity of clutter echoes.



The Promises and Challenges of Sustainable AI in Telecom

A major contribution to understanding AI's sustainability potential in the 6G future.

AI is transforming the ICT landscape, offering powerful tools to optimize resource allocation, enhance network performance, and increase the automation and resilience of ICT networks. However, its energy demands, particularly during model training and deployment, present environmental challenges. *Sustainable AI in Telecom: Promises and Challenges in 6G* examines how to mitigate the environmental impact of AI across the entire ICT industry value chain.



The Transformative Social and Economic Benefits of Low-Power Wide-Area Networks and Short-Range Massive Sensors in Rural North America

Envisioning the next-G world with awareness of societal and economic impacts built in from the start.

The NGA's work is focused on how 6G can deliver social and economic benefits to the widest range of users throughout North America. Low-power wide-area (LPWA) network technologies — such as LTE-M, NB-IoT, LoRa, and Sigfox — deliver long-range communications with minimal power consumption, making them ideal for addressing rural communities' unique connectivity challenges. The NGA's *Societal and Economic Impacts of LPWA and Short-Range Massive Sensors* captures its pivotal work on the role of LPWA networks and massive sensor deployments in rural North America. It covers the areas of applications in agriculture, healthcare, and public safety. With LPWA innovation users will gain real-time data to accelerate decision-making, improving both their quality of life and economic standing.

6G Digital Twins Use Cases and Requirements

6G Digital Twins Use Cases and Requirements **explores the transformative role of Digital Twin (DT) technology in the 6G era.**

By leveraging advanced AI, real-time data processing, and joint communication and sensing, 6G enhances digital twins (DTs') ability to simulate, analyze, and optimize physical systems with unprecedented accuracy. These improvements unlock new opportunities in sectors like manufacturing, healthcare, and smart cities, where DTs enable predictive maintenance, resource optimization, and real-time monitoring. The combination of distributed computing and ultra-low latency connectivity allows complex DT models to function seamlessly across multiple devices, driving efficiency and innovation in urban planning, industrial automation, and network management.

6G Digital Twins Use Cases and Requirements highlights three key DT use cases poised for significant growth: Network Digital Twins, Industrial Automation DTs, and Smart Cities DTs.

Fixed Wireless Access

This report highlights the crucial role of Fixed Wireless Access in expanding high-speed internet access, particularly in rural and underserved areas, to bridge the Digital Divide.

By leveraging 6G's advancements in spectrum efficiency, reliability, and performance, Fixed Wireless Access.(FWA) offers a cost-effective alternative to wired broadband, delivering improved connectivity for homes, businesses, and industries. Key applications include FWA as a service, smart factories, and underutilized spectrum exploitation, with additional benefits spanning education, gaming, e-health, and public safety. As FWA technology evolves alongside 6G, it will ensure seamless connectivity with enhanced broadband performance, driving equitable digital inclusion and economic growth.

The paper explores how FWA will enhance last-mile connectivity, network resilience, and industrial automation through high-capacity, low-latency networks. By providing scalable, secure, and efficient broadband access, FWA is poised to play a pivotal role in shaping the digital future across multiple industries.

Component Technologies for the 6G Future

The 6G Component Technologies White Papers Series comprises four pieces that address critical technologies that will contribute to North American leadership in the 6G future:

Antenna, Packaging, and Testing. This white paper covers emerging technologies and challenges for antenna, packaging, and testing of 6G wireless communication systems.

Circuits and Subsystems – To efficiently support innovative services on a massive scale, 6G must cover challenges related to RF circuits and subsystems. *Circuits and Subsystems* illustrates a baseline transceiver architecture to set the stage for subsequent much-needed discussions on this topic. Transceiver (TRX) design challenges such as carrier frequency, Local Oscillator (LO) frequency generation, link budgets, High Order Modulation (HOM), beamforming, Integrated Sensing and Communication (ISAC), Non-Terrestrial Network (NTN), and AI/EDA tool are covered.

Next G Displays highlights challenges for immersive displays in the 6G future, covering hardware and video content challenges. The paper also introduces solutions and future development directions in the areas of software and content innovations as well as augmented reality development. Key recommendations are provided.

Semiconductor Technology addresses the need for further development of semiconductor technologies critical to the successful development of 6G transceivers. This is not a one-size-fits-all approach, as these transceivers are complex systems and 6G covers multiple frequency bands. This paper covers the transceivers' main building blocks and analyzes the need for further technology development for each.

Access each of the white papers in the Component Technologies White Papers Series in the NGA's 6G Library.

NGA Topics on the Horizon 2026

- **Spectrum Recommendations**
- **Research Challenges**
- **NGA Market & Applications: Utilities Vertical**

Next G Alliance Reports

2022 - early 2026

Next G Alliance Report: Integrated Sensing and Communications Readiness
September 2025

Next G Alliance Report: 6G Radio Technology Part I: Basic Radio Technologies
March 2025

Next G Alliance Report: 6G Component Technologies Circuits and Subsystems
March 2025

Next G Alliance Report: 6G Component Technologies Antenna/ Package/Testing
March 2025

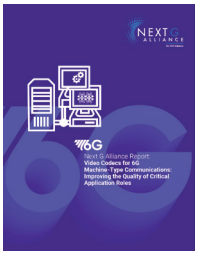
Next G Alliance Report: 6G Component Technologies Antenna/ Package/Testing
March 2025

Next G Alliance Report: 6G Digital Twins Use Cases and Requirements
March 2025

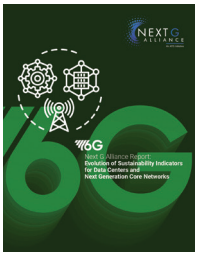
Societal and Economic Impacts of LPWA and Short-Range Massive Sensors
March 2025

Next G Alliance Report: Fixed Wireless Access
March 2025

Next G Alliance Report: Sustainable AI in Telecom
February 2025



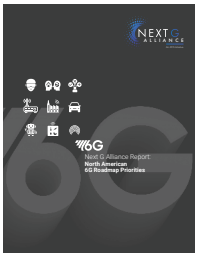
Next G Alliance Report: Video Codecs for 6G Machine-Type Com-munications:Improving the Quality of Critical Application Roles
October 2024



Next G Alliance Report: Evolution of Sustainability Indicators for Data Centers and Next Generation Core Networks
September 2024

Next G Alliance Report: Spectrum Working Group: Spectrum Access Mechanisms
August 2024

Next G Alliance Report: Channel Measurements and Modeling for Joint/ Integrated Communication and Sensing, as well as 7-24 GHz Communication
July 2024



Next G Alliance Report: 6G Sustainability KPI North American 6G Roadmap Priorities
July 2024

Next G Alliance Report: 6G Radio Technology Part II: Basic Radio Technologies
May 2024

6G Market Management and Orchestration
February 2024

Next G Alliance Report: Distributed Sensing and Communications
December 2023

Next G Alliance Report: Evolution of Sustainability Indicators for Next-Generation Radio Network Technologies
December 2023

Next G Alliance Report: 6G Radio Technology Part I: Basic Radio Technologies
November 2023

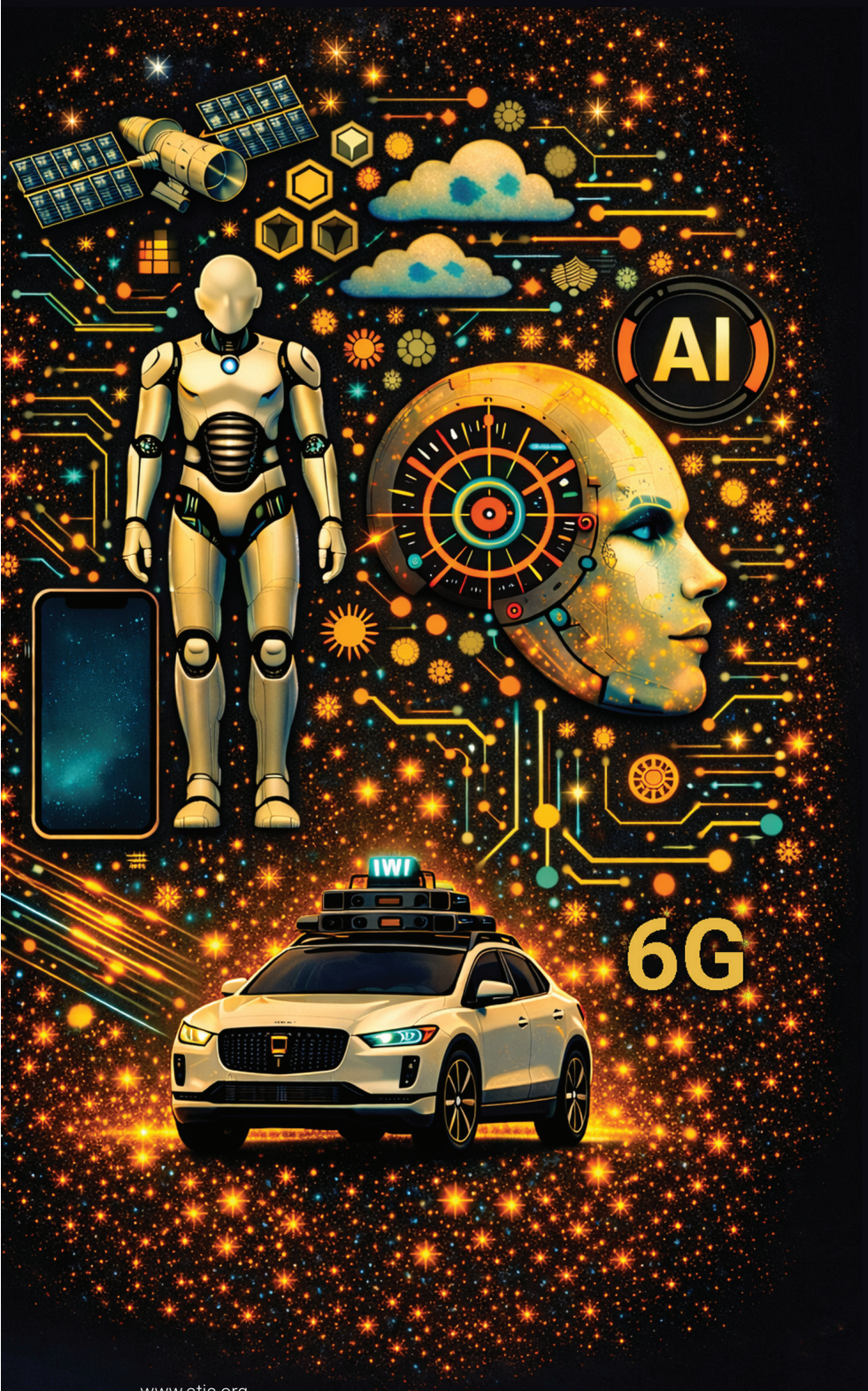
Next G Alliance Report: Shaping Tomorrow: The Evolution of Personalized Digital Experiences Through 6G Technologies
October 2023

Next G Alliance Report: Spectrum Needs for 6G
August 2023

Next G Alliance Report: Beyond Speed: Promoting Social and Economic Opportunities through 6G and Beyond
August 2023

Next G Alliance Report: 6G Technologies for Wide-Area Cloud Evolution
June 2023

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES



ATIS Open Access Network Forum

Enabling scalable open-access fiber deployments in North America.

The Open Access Network Forum provides a collaborative venue for ISPs, open-access infrastructure providers, and technology partners to align on the principles, architectures, and operating models needed to scale open-access fiber in North America.

By developing a unified Open Access Implementation Specification that covers business, operational, technical, and regulatory areas, the Forum will reduce integration challenges, shorten time-to-market for new providers, and enable more capital to be invested in fiber deployment instead of custom integrations. This promotes greater competition, consumer choice, and sustainable infrastructure growth. Visit oanf.atis.org.

Strengthening Security through Enhanced Zero Trust

Advancing secure, interoperable, and standards-aligned approaches for 5G.

Zero Trust is a security paradigm built on the principle that no digital system or internal or external user should be inherently trusted. Zero Trust Architecture (ZTA) provides a comprehensive framework for applying this model across complex digital ecosystems.

ATIS' *Enhanced 5G and Zero Trust Cloud and Operational Security Aspects* (eZT5G) reflects the organization's leadership in advancing cybersecurity and network resilience, examining how ZTA can be implemented and operationalized within 5G cloud environments while also addressing security considerations as networks evolve to 6G.

The Quantum-Safe Communications and Information Initiative

Preparing telecom networks for the post-quantum era.

As quantum computing advances, the digital security of today's telecommunications infrastructure faces unprecedented risk. ATIS leads the industry's proactive response with strategic insights and practical solutions.

ATIS' Quantum-Safe Communications and Information Initiative is producing a host of resources. They provide a roadmap for assessing quantum threats, securing 5G networks, and enabling cryptographic agility through enhanced visibility and transparency:

- *Quantum Technologies and the Cryptographic Threat Timeline: A Strategic Overview*
- *Preparing 5G for the Quantum Era: An Analysis of 3GPP Architecture and the Transition to Quantum-Resistant Cryptography*
- *Cryptographic Bill of Materials (CBOM) for Telecom: Enabling Quantum-Safe Transition and Crypto-Agility in 5G Networks*

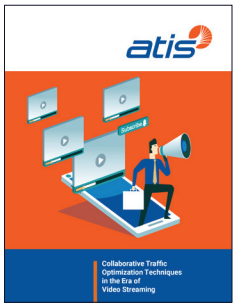
Learn more.

The Future of Digital Identity

Transforming how operators authenticate customers, secure their privacy, and protect them from fraud in the digital world.

In an environment where protecting consumers from SIM swap and number porting fraud presents growing challenges, ATIS has released *The Future of Digital Identity: A Self-Sovereign Identity Technical Implementation Guide for the Telecom Provider*.

This white paper outlines how providers can integrate reusable digital identity technologies into their operations to strengthen customer trust, reduce fraud, and enable secure, interoperable identity ecosystems. It highlights the benefits of incorporating Self-Sovereign Identity (SSI) and Verifiable Credentials (VCs) — empowering operators to not only prevent fraud but also deliver privacy-preserving authentication and streamline on-boarding across consumer, enterprise, and IoT environments.



Collaborative Traffic Optimization Techniques in the Era of Video Streaming

Essential strategic insights to advance the enduring industry priority of advancing QoE.

Collaborative Traffic Optimization Techniques in the Era of Video Streaming presents an emerging collaborative approach to content classification techniques illustrated through real-world user stories and traffic scenarios. The white paper also shows how these can be used to optimize user Quality of Experience (QoE) in information and communications networks.

ATIS Releases New Framework for Telecom Organizational Identity Governance

A comprehensive framework for governing, vetting, and managing Organizational Digital Identities (ODIs) and Organizational Attributes (OAs) through verifiable credentials.

ATIS' *Organizational Digital Identity and Telecom Verifiable Credential: Governance Model and Management* defines a governance framework for authorizing the use of cryptographically verifiable organizational identities within telecommunications, enabling networks to reliably authenticate legitimate enterprises and combat spoofing and fraud.

By standardizing the issuance and use of trusted, carrier-sanctioned verifiable credentials, aligned with existing mechanisms such as STIR/SHAKEN and Rich Call Data, this model enhances call and messaging authentication, supports secure customer onboarding and number management, and strengthens trust across telecom services. The framework presented strengthens providers' ability to verify and trust the identity of enterprise organizations participating in communications networks.

ATIS' Minimum Viable Profile Simplifies and Accelerates Open RAN Adoption in North America

An essential solution for ensuring interoperability and deployment of multi-vendor Open RAN solutions in North America.

Mobile network operators are adopting Open RAN with the goal of furthering innovation and deployment flexibility in their networks. Existing standards and specifications provide the technical basis for Open RAN deployment but contain considerable optionality in areas including Open RAN architecture, functional capabilities, and performance. Navigating the range of optionality has been challenging within the trusted equipment supply chain. That's why ATIS published the North American Open RAN Minimum Viable Profile (MVP), which establishes a minimum set of technical requirements common across all North American operators to foster the development and integration of Open RAN technologies within their networks. Learn more at *mvp.atis.org*.

Advancing Open Source

Linux Foundation collaboration, one of many ATIS efforts to further open source innovation in ICT industry.

In a move to create highly modular, interoperable, and software-driven networks, ATIS and the Linux Foundation, host of Linux Foundation Networking and key Open RAN software projects, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to drive collaboration on the development and integration of open source and Open RAN technologies.

This strategic partnership aligns implementation and standardization efforts across U.S. operators, accelerating the progress toward secure, sustainable, and intelligent next-generation network architectures, including **5G** and **6G**. Together, with Linux Foundation, ATIS is combining the strengths of **open standards** and **open source** to build the foundation for the networks of tomorrow.

2026 Strategic Initiatives

Expect ATIS insights on these topics:

- **Quantum Entropy**
- **Enterprise Identity – Distributed Ledger Technology**
- **5G Policy Management for Zero Trust**
- **Telecom Organizational Verifiable Credential Governance**
- **Telco APIs and Monetization Assessment**
- **Fixed Wireless Access Scenarios and Key Parameters**
- **AI Network Applications: NeuroSymbolic Cognitive Assistant**
- **AI Network Applications: Wireless Physical Foundation Model**
- **Accelerating North American 5G Standalone Deployment**

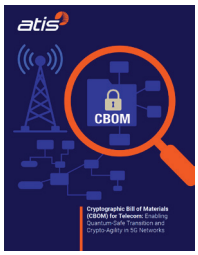
ATIS Reports

2023-25

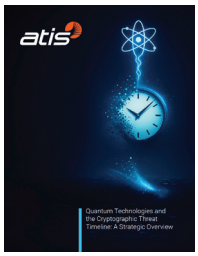
ATIS Report:
Dynamic Spectrum Sharing and The Art of Possibilities
December 2025

ATIS Report:
The Organizational Digital Identity and Telecom Verifiable Credential: Governance Model and Management
November 2025

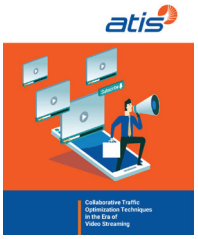
ATIS Report:
The Future of Digital Identity
October 2025



ATIS Report:
Cryptographic Bill of Materials (CBOM) for Telecom:
August 2025



ATIS Report:
Quantum Technologies and the Cryptographic Threat Timeline: A Strategic Overview
March 2024



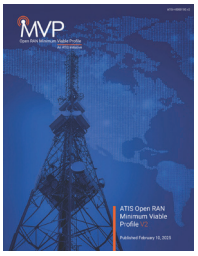
ATIS Report:
Collaborative Traffic Optimization Techniques in the Era of Video Streaming
March 2024

ATIS Report::
Enhanced 5G and Zero Trust Cloud and Operational Security Aspects Phase 2
September 2024

ATIS Report:
AI Implementation in Telecommunications Network
April 2024

ATIS Report:
Enhancing Telecom Security through Self-Sovereign Identity
March 2024

ATIS Report:
Content Classification for Traffic Optimization
March 2024

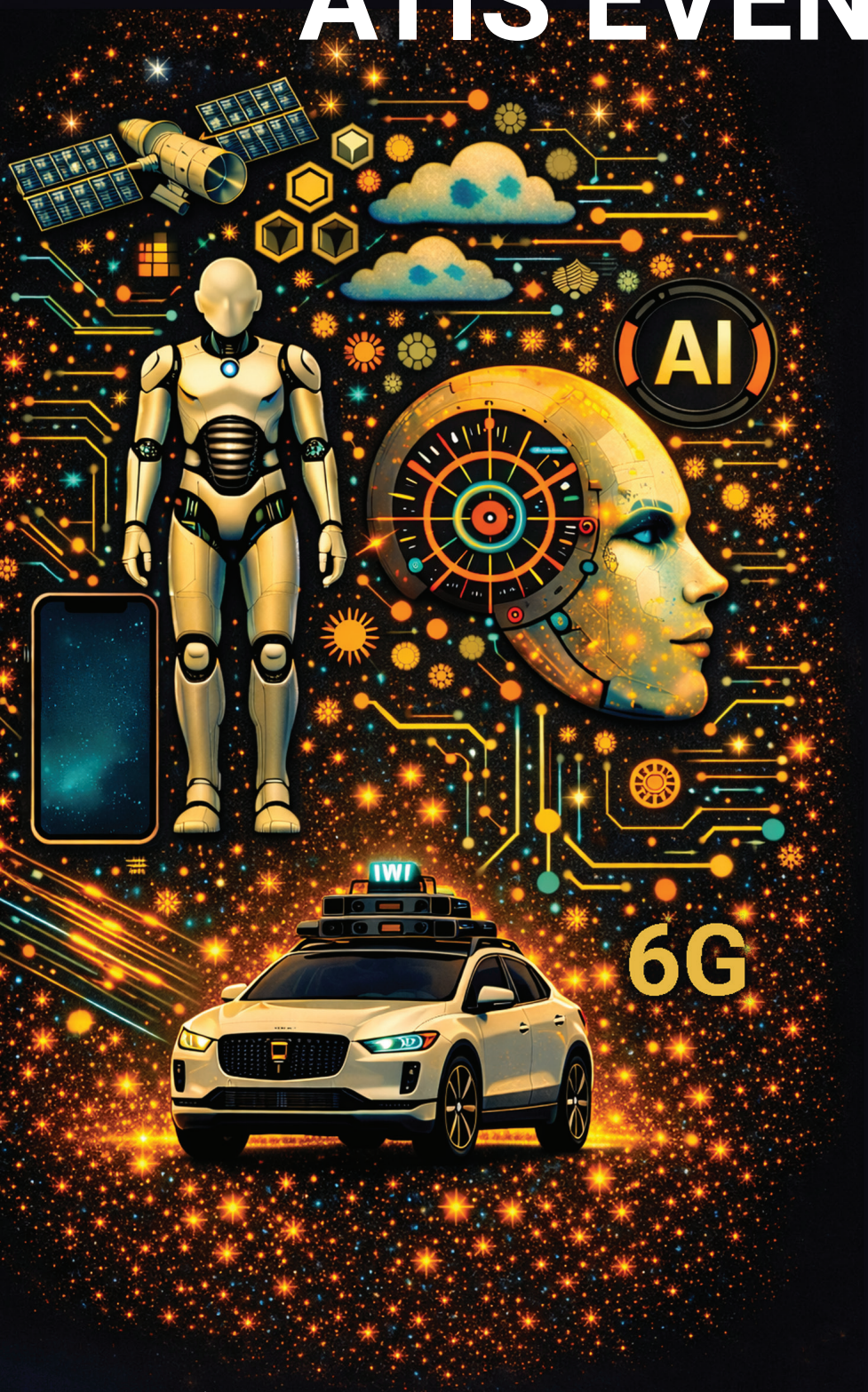


ATIS Report:
ATIS Open RAN Viable Profile
March 2024

ATIS Report:
Preparing 5G for the Quantum Era
March 2023

ATIS Report: Enhanced Zero Trust and 5G
March 2023

3GPP AND ATIS EVENTS



ATIS Hosted Working Group Meetings in Dallas and Baltimore

ATIS hosted the 3GPP Working Group (WG) Meetings in Dallas, Texas, November 17-21, 2025, and for the first time hosted the 3GPP plenaries in Baltimore, Maryland, December 8-12, 2025.

ATIS is proud to be the North American 3GPP Organizational Partner and to host these important 3GPP events in our home region.

ATIS Hosts 3GPP Meetings in Calgary and Boston

Save the date for the 2026 3GPP Working Group Meetings in Calgary and Technical Specification Group Meetings in Boston. Visit [3GPPmeetings.atis.org.](3GPPmeetings.atis.org)

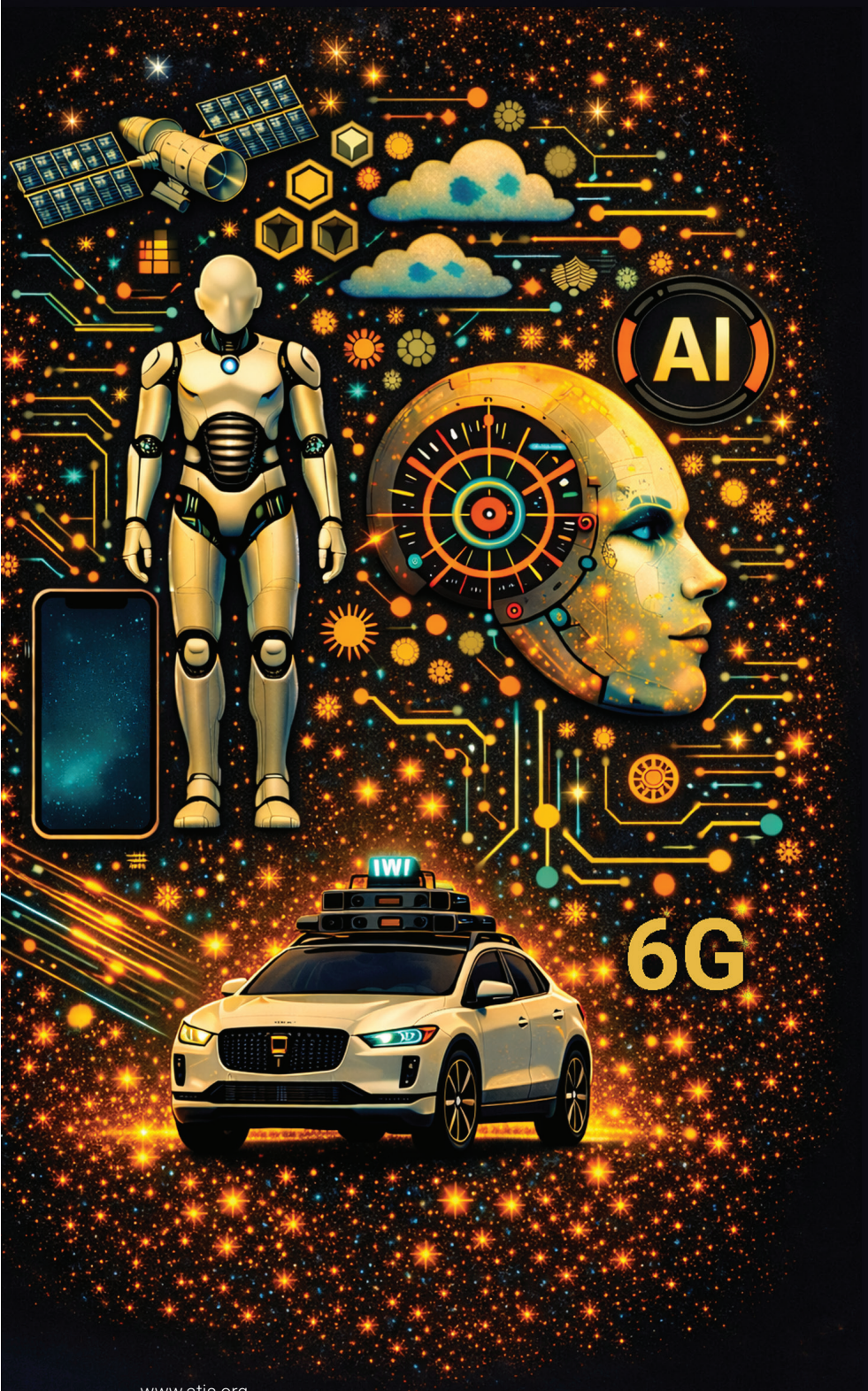
ATIS EVENTS

wsts.atis.org

North America's Premier Timing & Sync Event

May 4 - 7, 2026 | Bellevue, WA

POLICY AND REGULATORY



In the public policy arena, ATIS serves as a leading voice for the North American ICT industry on critical and emerging technology issues before the White House, Congress, and federal agencies.

ATIS Regulatory and Policy Engagement

Advancing member and industry priorities through targeted regulatory and policy engagement.

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., ATIS works year-round to advance industry interests in various policy arenas. Since the new administration assumed office in January, 2025, ATIS has created inroads with key policymakers and champions of U.S. telecommunications and standards leadership, closely tracked ongoing policy developments, and provided input on a variety of issues that are pertinent to the ICT industry.

Support of Political Appointees

As part of its early engagement with the new administration, ATIS signed on to several multi-association letters of support for political appointees, including Michael Kratsios for Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), Arielle Roth for Administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), and Olivia Trusty for FCC Commissioner. These individuals were subsequently confirmed by Congress and now lead their respective organizations with the industry's best interests in mind.

Educating Federal Stakeholders

In an effort to explain the value of ATIS' work and standardization writ large, ATIS drafted a document titled *Understanding the Role of and Value of ATIS Standards*. This primer has been circulated to various federal stakeholders, including the FCC, and is designed to provide the new administration with a background on how ATIS is best positioned to serve as a critical partner in advancing North American telecommunications leadership and as a liaison between industry and government stakeholders. Looking forward, this document will help guide engagement with federal stakeholders and enable ATIS to effectively advocate for its members' interests.

Capitol Hill

ATIS closely tracks developments on Capitol Hill. Several pieces of legislation from 2025 include provisions pertinent to spectrum auction authority and allocation, broadband, reduction of regulatory barriers to deployment, R&D tax credits, and more. ATIS has analyzed these actions and shared its findings with critical members of the ICT industry, enabling companies and federal stakeholders alike to adapt and plan. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act, signed into law on July 4, 2025, and its implications for industry has been a focal point for Congressional discussions.

Input to the FCC

In 2025, ATIS and its committees submitted comments and input to a variety of FCC proceedings that are critical to the ICT industry. In response to FCC Chairman Carr's launch of the Delete, Delete, Delete docket, ATIS' WTSC, INC, NRSC, and ESIF groups submitted comments with substantial recommendations for streamlining FCC regulations and eliminating outdated and obstructive rules. This opens the door for forward progress in creating regulations that are adaptable to the rapidly changing ICT landscape. ATIS committees also worked on critical issues such as Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1), E9-1-1 location services, wireless emergency alerts (WEA), disaster response outage reporting (DIRS/NORS), and large-scale rate center consolidation (LSRCC). A full list of ATIS public policy filings can be found here. Read more about ATIS' committee work in the *Standards and Solutions* section of this document.

2026 Insights

2026 is a critical year for telecommunications policy. ATIS is launching collaboration efforts with NTIA, which is queuing up items such as spectrum studies for reallocation, the successful market realization of 6G, and preparations for the 2026 FIFA World Cup and the 2028 Los Angeles Summer Olympic Games. The NTIA will be looking to ATIS as a bridge to industry and other agencies as well as for its expertise in spectrum, global standards, and the 6G lifecycle. ATIS looks forward to representing its members' interests through this deepened collaboration.

Regarding global standards, ATIS is also working hard to enable successful meeting hosting in North America. ATIS is a founding and North American Organizational Partner (OP) for the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP), which brings together nearly 2,000 engineers and SMEs from around the world to develop the foundational standards that enable global telecommunications interoperability and underpin the global economy. ATIS looks forward to collaborating with federal partners at the Department of State and NTIA to enable North America to be a critical meeting host and leader in 3GPP global standards.

The FCC has queued up a host of items to focus on in 2026, including national security, enabling high speed Internet connectivity, improving public safety and 9-1-1 technologies, further tackling illegal robocalling,

enhancing regulatory efficiency, and more. It is expected that Chairman Carr's Build America Agenda will take center stage, and many related dockets are expected to be released for comment. ATIS and its committees take an active role in articulating the ICT industry's interests and opinions to the Commission.

Now that the transition to the new administration has settled, with key political nominees confirmed and administration strategies in motion, ATIS is prepared to continue its active engagement with federal stakeholders on key policy issues that advance the interests of its members and the broader ICT industry — positioning the U.S. to continue in its global leadership role in telecommunications and standards.

Robocalling Mitigation

Growth and change in 2025.

2025 kicked off appearing as if it might be a year of contraction for the U.S. STIR/SHAKEN ecosystem. For the first time, the FCC ordered the removal of a large number of service providers from its Robocall Mitigation Database (RMD), more than 1,400. Since registration in the robocall mitigation database (RMD) is one requirement for participation in the U.S. ecosystem, the Secure Telephone Identity Governance Authority (STI-GA) and Policy Authority (PA), worked in concert to identify which of those 1,400 providers were also registered with the PA, either under a name identified by the FCC, or perhaps a separate DBA. While the effort resulted in only a dozen STI-PA removals, the lessons learned in the process are of tremendous value for the future.

Perhaps the primary lesson was that the FCC's removal of a provider from the RMD does not mean that the provider no longer qualifies to be part of the STIR/SHAKEN ecosystem. Many telecommunications providers operate under multiple names, much of which is due to merger and consolidation activity over the years. Thus, a provider removed from the FCC RMD under one moniker might still be registered under another name, perhaps under an affiliate. The STI-GA and PA moved with caution to ensure no SPs were wrongly removed.

Instead of contraction, 2025 turned into one of somewhat unexpected growth. After adding a little more than 100 providers through 2024, the pace of new service provider authorizations picked up significantly. At the end of 2024, the FCC issued an order that required all service providers to sign calls with their own certificates; previously they'd been allowed to have their calls signed with a third-party's certificate. Following issuance of that order, it was unclear the number of previously unregistered providers that would seek entry. In total, the ecosystem added more than 550 new providers, most of which signed up over a four-month period from June to the end of September. The U.S. has by far the largest STIR/SHAKEN ecosystem in the world, with more than 1,950 participating providers.

The ecosystem continues to expand and adjust to meet the FCC's regulatory requirements. The STI-GA and STI-PA have together ensured the policies and systems that make STIR/SHAKEN possible have successfully expanded to meet industry demand.

But the STI-GA focus on growth of STIR/SHAKEN is not solely focused on the U.S. Throughout the year, the STI-GA's Technical Committee has worked in concert with the STI-PA to map out changes to the U.S. systems that would allow for providers in other countries to validate calls signed in the U.S., as well as to have their calls validated within the U.S. Following ATIS standards for cross-border call signing, the STI-GA is rolling out this new functionality in the first quarter of 2026.

Finally, after many years of stability in membership, the STI-GA Board experienced a good deal of turnover. As original STI-GA Board members changed jobs, or retired, the Board welcomed a number of new members, including a new Chair (Glenn Clepper, Charter) and Vice-Chair (Gunnar Halley, Microsoft). The transition to new leadership has proved smooth, and the Board continues to look to address new challenges coming its way.

The Board knows that the fight against illegal robocalling is not finished. Scammers continue to run campaigns based on misidentification of the calling party. For this reason, the Board will continue its coordination with both the FCC and state Attorney's General. The Board also began closer coordination with the Industry Traceback Group, the entity which works to help law enforcement track down the origin of illegal calls.

Now entering its seventh year of operations, the STI-GA is still advancing its forward momentum. With the goal of protecting customers from illegal robocalls, the STI-GA and ATIS continue to seek out new methods to enhance STIR/SHAKEN as well as to use what is in place more effectively. 2025 was a year of tremendous growth and change. As the communications industry continues its fast-paced growth and change in 2026, the industry-run STI-GA is well-positioned to deliver on the promises of STIR/SHAKEN.

For updates on this work, visit https://sti-ga.atis.org/.

STANDARDS AND SOLUTIONS

ATIS Solutions and Standards transform industry challenges into results. Here are a few recent examples from our committees:

ESIF: The Emergency Services Interconnection Forum

ESIF is where the industry comes together in a voluntary open forum to identify and resolve technical and operational issues to facilitate interconnection of emergency services networks with other networks, including wireline, cable, satellite, internet, etc. Among its many roles, the Committee develops Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) and location accuracy requirements and solutions. ESIF members come from industry, government, standards, and public safety organizations. In recent highlights:

- The ESIF Next Generation Emergency Services & Messaging (NGESM) Subcommittee has undertaken a major initiative working with 988 Lifeline subject matter experts to develop a new standard on GeoRouting for 988 voice calls. This standard provides guidelines for implementing GeoRouting for 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline voice calls, ensuring accurate routing to local crisis centers while preserving caller privacy. It replaces traditional area code-based routing with state and county level FIPS codes transmitted via existing SS7 and SIP signaling, enabling carriers to comply with FCC requirements and improve service reliability. This innovative approach leverages standardized GeoRouting Codes to enhance interoperability across networks without using precise geolocation data. Publication of this standard is anticipated in early 2026.
- The ESIF IMS9-1-1 Subcommittee has completed work for a new standard on NG9-1-1 Text Messaging. This document identifies and adapts as necessary 3GPP common IMS emergency procedures for applicability in North America to support emergency communications originating from an IMS subscriber (wireline or wireless; fixed, mobile or nomadic) and terminating at an i3 ESInet/NGCS, Text Control Center (TCC) or, for appropriate media, legacy emergency services network to support Multimedia Emergency Services (MMES). This standard is intended to support a full multimedia experience; simultaneous text, voice, pictures, and video are all supported. Publication of this standard is also anticipated in early 2026. Once complete, the Subcommittee will continue its work to create a new standard on IMS Data Channel for Emergency Services.

INC: Industry Numbering Committee

As the industry's open forum for addressing and developing solutions for numbering issues, INC has completed the *Large-Scale Rate Center Consolidation (LSRCC) Reference Document*.

Rate centers — geographic points used in telecom to define "local" vs. "long-distance" calls, number assignment, and carrier charges — are under review as technologies such as VoIP, mobile, and number portability change calling patterns. Consolidating rate centers could simplify intercarrier cost structures, reduce inefficiencies, and minimize regulatory overhead. The LSRCC Reference Document comes in response to high industry demand.

A webinar, *Rate Center Consolidation: What You Need to Know Now*, was held to provide practical insights for regulators, service providers, and vendors.

International Mobile Subscriber (IMSI) Oversight Council

The International Mobile Subscriber (IMSI) Oversight Council updated its Home Network Identity (HNI) application form and guidelines to account for the increase in companies operating private LTE networks that are roaming onto public networks. This will enable an exception for private companies to apply and qualify for an HNI. New assignment requests can be submitted here.

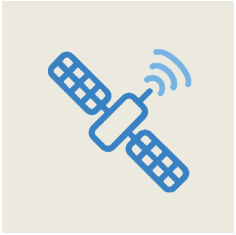
ATIS has also deployed a new dashboard for electronic invoicing and payment for all assigned HNI and shared HNI codes. Users are encouraged to use the new dashboard and can log in to their accounts for status and payments here.

NRSC: Network Reliability Steering Committee

NRSC is home to a key set of industry advisors on the health and reliability of the nation's communications networks and is actively involved in public policy input on leading issues in this area. Among its many accomplishments, the committee has:

> Developed ATIS-0100073: *Outage Reporting Structure and Potential Types of 988 Outages* to assist the mental health crisis community in the event of 988 service outages. Also developed was a template that is consistent in nature to ease consumption by 988 Lifeline systems while providing known information that is pertinent and actionable. The template and definitions contained within this technical report represent a consensus effort achieved by a working group that included representatives from carriers and third-party providers.

> Also finalized in 2025 was the *Network Reliability Steering Committee 2023-2024 Operational Report*, a major undertaking that reports on the NRSC's achievements over the 2023–2024 time period. The report notes that America's communications networks are more than infrastructure; they are the backbone of our emergency response, commerce, and daily connections. The 2023-2024 report focuses on NRSC's development of a cohesive approach to collecting and analyzing meaningful data, enabling a deeper understanding of outage causes and fostering improved situational awareness of the nation's communications health. In addition, it shows how the NRSC continues to champion Industry Best Practices, ensuring they remain current and relevant in a rapidly evolving technological landscape. As the nation continues to transition to a more interconnected world with expanded wireless networks, the rise of 5G, and the shift to all-IP frameworks, moving into 2026, the NRSC's efforts will continue to be pivotal in addressing these transformative changes.



SYNC: The Synchronization Committee

SYNC engages industry expertise to develop and recommend standards and technical reports for synchronization technologies.

Most recently, the Committee has published a major industry technical report, ATIS-0900006 *Resilient Timing Architecture for 5G Communications Networks*. It highlights how the telecommunications industry requires reliable delivery of precision timing signals to enable operation of cellular networks. The report acknowledges the telecommunications industry's dependence on Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), discusses GNSS vulnerabilities of concern to the communications sector, and outlines a resilient architecture for mitigating these vulnerabilities. It provides a telecom sector perspective on resilient timing architecture for 5G communications networks and provides a series of comments and recommendations for consideration by the larger timing community. This resource was published in response to an ATIS board-driven initiative on the topic, an area in which ATIS guidance and standards are in demand by the industry.

Joint Standards Development: IMS Emergency Services IP Network (IMSESINET)

A major ATIS joint standards development initiative, IMSESINET is a joint project led by the WTSC Systems and Networks (SN) subcommittee and coordinated with ESIF NGES and PTSC. This joint work has produced *ATIS-070053 Emergency Location Spoofing Mitigation Study*. This technical report studies the signing and verification of location information provided with 9-1-1 calls to assist Public Safety Answering Points in identifying potential spoofing of the location information provided with those calls.

It analyzes the impacts of applying location signing and verification procedures to 9-1-1 calls to assist in detecting and preventing malicious spoofing of location information associated with such calls. It also identifies the impacts on another ATIS report, ATIS-0700015, associated with supporting emergency location spoofing mitigation.

Also, a joint initiative involving ESIF, PTSC, and WTSC, a new Civic and Geodetic Location Conveyance in Support of Emergency Calling report has been produced. The availability of accurate 3D geodetic location information represents important advancements in how callers can be located during an emergency based on how that location is conveyed. New approaches are being developed to support not only geodetic 3D location, but also the conveyance of estimated civic location information. This information is augmented with additional geodetic position information (as an example of how to convey confidence and uncertainty for civic location) as well as other information when available (e.g., floor level), sufficient to identify emergency caller location.

The scope of this ATIS standard covers the conveyance of both primary geodetic and civic information, including associated geodetic location information as part of a Compound Location across current wireless standards, when available. This resource enables interaction, input, and coordination with other SDOs and related organizations, including NENA and APCO requirements and standards.

ATIS Committees and Forums

ACTA		Administrative Council for Terminal Attachments
AIDC		Automatic Identification & Data Capture Committee
ESIF		Emergency Services Interconnection Forum
INC		Industry Numbering Committee
IOC		International Mobile Subscriber Identity Oversight Council
NGIIF		Next Generation Interconnection Interoperability Forum
NRSC		Network Reliability Steering Committee
OBF		Ordering and Billing Forum
ORC		Open RAN Committee
PTSC		Packet Technologies and Systems Committee
SNAC		SMS/800 Number Administration Committee
STEP		Sustainability in Telecom: Energy and Protection Committee
SYNC		Synchronization Committee
TMOC		Telecom Management and Operations Committee
WTSC		Wireless Technologies and Systems Committee

ATIS and its members work together to address the industry's business and technology imperatives, ensuring value is delivered to the larger ecosystem.

This collaborative model is value-driven, finely tuned to changing business needs and aligned with the market's need to introduce new technologies at the pace of innovation.

www.atis.org

To learn more about ATIS' initiatives, contact Rich Moran, ATIS Director of Membership