DCIA P4P Working Group Mission Statement

Mission

To work jointly and cooperatively with leading Internet service providers (ISPs), peer-to-peer (P2P) software distributors, and technology researchers to ascertain appropriate and voluntary best practices for the use of "P4P*" mechanisms to accelerate distribution of content and optimize utilization of ISP network resources in order to provide the best possible performance to end-user customers.

Objectives

- Provide ISPs with the ability to optimize utilization of network resources while enhancing service levels for P2P traffic
- Provide P2P software distributors with the ability to accelerate content delivery while enhancing efficient usage of ISP bandwidth
- Provide researchers who are developing P4P mechanisms with the support to advance and the ability to publish their work
- Determine, validate, and encourage the adoption of methods for ISPs and P2P software distributors to work together to enable and support consumer service improvements as P2P adoption and resultant traffic evolves while protecting the intellectual property (IP) of participating entities
- Establish appropriate and voluntary best practices for the deployment of P4P mechanisms to meet the above identified objectives in a way that can be sustained by all of the necessary participants

Potential Participants

- ISPs
- P2P software distributors
- Technology researchers
- DCIA Member companies
- Information technology firms involved in digital media platforms

Path to Progress

- Publish the Mission and Objectives of the working group
- Publish a call for participants in the working group and recruit a balanced representation of core members
- Draft and reach agreement on a P4P pilot study to expand beyond simulation research done to date, including the test plan, timeline, and deliverables
- Ensure that the test plan emphasizes quantification of performance improvements using to-be-determined (TBD) measurements
- Organize and conduct the P4P pilot study to ascertain an efficient means for accelerating content distribution and optimizing the use of network resources for content distribution using P2P software programs
- Prepare and publish voluntary DCIA recommended practices for P4P adoption based on results of the pilot study

* - "P4P:" A set of business practices and integrated network topology awareness models designed to optimize ISP network resources and enable P2P based content payload acceleration.