

TECH BULLETIN

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USB-IF to Develop Media Agnostic USB Specification *WiGig Serial Extension v1.2 provides initial foundation for new USB specification*

BEAVERTON, Ore. – September 9, 2013 – Today the USB Implementers Forum ([USB-IF](http://usb.org)) announced the development of the Media Agnostic (MA) USB specification. The specification is designed to allow wireless devices and docking stations to communicate over the USB protocol, without the need for a physical USB connection. An important design goal of the specification is to achieve wireless gigabit transfer rates while leveraging existing USB infrastructure, present in the form of:

- Open application programming interfaces in every major operating system
- USB class specifications by USB-IF device working groups
- A wealth of open-source/OS specific drivers for USB classes
- Vendor-specific device drivers for a multitude of USB vendor-specific devices

The WiGig Serial Extension (WSE) v1.2 specification from the Wi-Fi Alliance® will provide the initial foundation for the Media Agnostic USB specification. The WSE specification has been formally transferred to the USB-IF from the Wi-Fi Alliance, and the WSE specification already incorporates the USB protocol.

“We are pleased to see the USB-IF use the WiGig Serial Extension in its development of the Media Agnostic USB specification,” said Edgar Figueroa, president and CEO of Wi-Fi Alliance. “Advanced wireless usages of serial bus technology have the potential to deliver great benefit to users.”

Wireless devices implementing the Media Agnostic USB specification will be compliant with SuperSpeed USB (USB 3.0) and Hi-Speed USB (USB 2.0). The USB-IF has established a Media Agnostic USB Work Group which is currently developing the MA USB specification 1.0. To find out how to participate in the MA USB Work Group contact the USB-IF at admin@usb.org.

About the USB-IF

The non-profit USB Implementers Forum, Inc. was formed to provide a support organization and forum for the advancement and adoption of USB technology. The USB-IF facilitates the development of high-quality, compatible USB devices through its logo and compliance program. In addition, it promotes the benefits of USB and the quality products that have passed its compliance testing. Further information, including postings of the most recent product and technology announcements, is available by visiting the USB-IF Web site at www.usb.org.