



USB-IF Technical Bulletin

USB-IF Releases Extensions to USB Video Class 1.1

USB Device Class Definition for Video Devices: H.264 Payload Now Available

BEAVERTON, Ore. - June 20, 2011 - The USB-IF's Video Work Group completed a supplement to the USB Video Class (UVC) 1.1 that adds the extensions to support H.264. The USB Device Class Definition for Video Devices applies to all devices or functions within composite devices that are used to manipulate video and video-related functionality. This includes devices such as webcams, digital camcorders, analog video converters, analog and digital TV tuners and still-image cameras that support video streaming.

H.264 encoding enables a host to offload compression to a device such as a webcam. In addition, compression provides more bandwidth for additional USB devices.

Devices supporting H.264 encoding are able to interface with the host using defined controls and video streaming interface(s). The H.264 Payload specification is compatible with drivers based upon the USB-IF's UVC 1.0 and 1.1 specifications and relies on proper support of the MJPG and/or Stream Based payload format. The new controls are defined using standard UVC extension control units. Additional extensions may be developed in the future to enhance control of encoders and decoders for various compression and decompression technologies.

UVC 1.1 from the USB-IF is an open standard and the specification was written with support from USB-IF member companies.

The USB-IF's USB Device Class Definition for Device Class Definition for Video Devices: H.264 Payload is available at http://www.usb.org/developers/devclass_docs#approved.

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 ensures confidence in products that have achieved certification. 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.

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