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COMPANION SPECIFICATION ENABLES FIRST TIME DEVICE ASSOCIATION
Certified Wireless USB Certification Program Ensures Security and Interoperability

INTEL DEVELOPER CONFERENCE, San Francisco, California, March 6, 2006 — The USB Implementers Forum, Inc. (USB-IF) today announced the completion of the Certified Wireless USB Association Models Specification 1.0, an integrated companion specification to Wireless USB 1.0 that will help developers more securely connect hosts and devices.

“The association model specification is a key differentiator from other wireless technologies,” said Jeff Ravencraft, chairman and president of the USB-IF and Intel technology strategist. “By providing a method for first-time product association, the specification helps ensure a secure connection between products from any vendor that complies with the Certified Wireless USB certification requirements. Certified Wireless USB supports the same ease-of-use and plug-and-play features consumers love and know from wired USB.”

Association, security and interoperability will be enforced through the USB-IF certification program, which will allow companies to test compliance to all Certified Wireless USB specifications. Companies must pass compliance testing and execute a logo license in order to use the Certified Wireless USB logo. Through this process, the Certified Wireless USB logo will continue to communicate the brand promise to the consumer.

“In consumer electronics, ease-of-use is essential for users. The USB-IF created Certified Wireless USB to retain the same plug and play capabilities as wired USB,” said Brian O’Rourke, senior analyst with In-Stat. “The association models spec enables manufactures to build host solutions that will allow one host to connect with up to 127 devices from different manufacturers – all built on the Certified Wireless USB technology.”

The association model specification includes two options: numeric and cable association models. In the numeric association model, a device will show a short number on its display, which the user will then verify with the host. On limited hosts that do not have input capabilities,

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the host simply displays the number and the user clicks 'OK,' if it matches. Alternately, hosts can require the user to enter the number, a method familiar to users of many existing wireless technologies today. The cable association model allows the user to associate a host to a device by using a USB cable during the first use – after this initial association, the device and host will communicate wirelessly without the cable. Both options will deliver more secure association and ease-of-use to consumers. Device manufacturers can choose the model that best suits the needs of their products and customers.

Product development based on the Certified Wireless USB Specification is currently underway, with the first products expected to be available in Q3 2006. The first implementations will be in the form of discrete silicon that is being introduced in a number of form factors such as add-in cards, external adapters, as well as embedded silicon modules for integrated solutions.

About Certified Wireless USB

Certified Wireless USB is the first high-speed wireless personal interconnect technology combining the speed and security of wired Hi-Speed USB with the ease-of-use of wireless technology. It is backward compatible with wired USB, allows users to connect up to 127 devices and delivers a bandwidth of up to 480Mb/s at 3 meters and 110Mb/s at 10 meters. Certified Wireless USB is based on the WiMedia Alliance Ultra-wideband Common Radio Platform.

The Wireless USB Promoter Group, consisting of seven companies—Agere Systems, Hewlett Packard, Intel, Microsoft, NEC, Philips Semiconductors and Samsung—defined the core Certified Wireless USB specification with the support of more than 100 contributor members. The group has now transitioned the specification's management to the USB-IF, the supporting governing body of USB specifications. If a company intends to build and ship a product based on the Certified Wireless USB specification and wants to obtain a license, it should become an adopter member of the specification. Download the adopter agreement by visiting: <http://www.usb.org/wusb/>.

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 and promotes the benefits of USB and the quality of products that have passed 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.

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