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NEXT GENERATION PERIPHERAL DEVELOPMENT KIT TO SPEED TIME TO MARKET OF CERTIFIED WIRELESS USB DEVICES

USB Implementers Forum Continues to Provide Support Methods to Developers

CERTIFIED WIRELESS USB DEVELOPERS CONFERENCE, San Jose, Calif. – June 21, 2006 – The USB Implementers Forum, with support from Intel, Microsoft and NEC Corp., today announced the completion of the next generation Certified Wireless USB Peripheral Development Kit (PDK). The enhanced kit offers a host-side solution to assist companies with the development of Certified Wireless USB devices.

"The delivery of this next generation PDK will give OEM/ODMs the ability to focus their engineering efforts on device solutions, giving them faster time-to-market," said Jeff Ravencraft, president and chairman of the USB-IF and Intel technology strategist. "The USB-IF's commitment to providing the industry with technical expertise and the tools needed to produce high-quality, interoperable devices is evident with the announcement of the next generation PDK."

The next generation Certified Wireless USB PDK provides new features, increased availability and a significant cost reduction from the previous PDK. The PDK is available in two smaller form factors: a standard PCI add-in card and a dongle, based on Certified Wireless USB. The standard PCI add-in card incorporates NEC's host controller silicon based on Certified Wireless USB and will include a WiMedia UWB radio (PHY). The Wireless USB dongle incorporates Intel's host solution based on Certified Wireless USB and will include a WiMedia UWB radio (PHY). The kit also includes Intel's updated toolset that supports Directed Beaconing Devices and the Numeric Association Model from the Certified Wireless USB Association Models 1.0 Specification and a beta version of Microsoft's software stack based on Certified Wireless USB.

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"Microsoft is pleased to provide the software stack included in the PDK as it will enable the industry to experience Certified Wireless USB with the same ease-of-use experienced with wired USB," said Fred Bhesania, USB-IF board member and Wireless USB Program Manager, Microsoft.

"Our track record as a key member of the Certified Wireless USB Promoter Group and our lengthy experience with wired USB has allowed us to provide the host-side silicon (uPD720170) for the Certified Wireless USB PDK," said Kugao Ouchi, general manager, digital consumer and connectivity strategic business unit, NEC Electronics America. "Making the PDK available to the industry will bring products to market quickly while maximizing engineering resources."

The next generation PDK will be available in July to USB-IF members online. PDK requirements criteria and pricing can be found at www.usb.org/developers/estoreinfo/.

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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