



DASH7 Alliance Announces Updated Standard For Wireless Sensor Networks

DASH7 "Mode 2" Offers Dramatic New Capabilities for Developers

San Ramon, CA, USA – July 20, 2010. The DASH7 Alliance (<http://www.dash7.org>), a non-profit industry consortium that promotes the use of the ISO 18000-7 standard for wireless sensor networking, today announced the release of an updated specification for the ISO 18000-7 standard for wireless sensor networking that enables tag-to-tag communications, improved location precision, over-the-air configuration, and higher data rates.

The Mode 2 specification was submitted as a new work item to the ISO 18000-7 standards committee following approval by the DASH7 Alliance, which today includes more than 50 participants from 23 countries. The full Mode 2 spec is available today to DASH7 Alliance members and will be available to the public in ISO in mid-2011.

"DASH7 Mode 2 is an exciting achievement in wireless technology since we've not only improved on existing DASH7 strengths such as range and battery life, but we added new capabilities that make it easier for developers to deliver features required for many new markets and applications," said Patrick Burns, President of the DASH7 Alliance. "Unless you are streaming video or audio over your wireless sensor network, there is simply no reason to use another wireless technology other than DASH7."

DASH7 Mode 2 enables new applications for both enterprise and consumer customers, including improved "real-time" locating capability for indoor asset tracking and access control, longer range communications for enabling smart billboards, and internet addressing for smart energy applications requiring IPv6. Mode 2's improved support for public key encryption is essential for many consumer applications where privacy is a top concern.

"DASH7 Mode 2 is an important specification for automotive applications like tire pressure monitoring but holds even more promise for non-automotive applications like smart buildings and mobile advertising," said Dr. Patrick King, Global Electronics Strategist for Michelin Corporation.

Utilizing a new multi-channel architecture and improved modulation and encoding techniques, DASH7 Mode 2 preserves the sub-16 kilobyte protocol stack size of DASH7 Mode 1 while making it easier to support public key encryption, IPv6 addressing, and sensor data. DASH7 Mode 2 devices can also be configured to include optional backwards compatibility with legacy Mode 1 devices.

"By advancing specifications to ISO 18000-7 standards, DASH7 continues to position active RFID as an enabling technology for a wide range of solutions, applications and markets taking advantage of low-power, wireless sensor networks," said ABI Research RFID Practice Director Michael Liard.

A white paper summarizing mode 2 is available at www.dash7.org/Mode2Summary.pdf. Developers wishing to collaborate on OpenTag, the open source firmware library for DASH7, can visit www.sourceforge.net/projects/opentag for more information. A beta version of OpenTag with DASH7 Mode 2 support is expected this fall.

About DASH7 Technology

Products with DASH7 wireless sensor networking capability simplify the way we connect with the people, places and things around us. Operating in the license-free 433 MHz spectrum, DASH7 offers multi-kilometer range, multi-year battery life, sensor and security support, and tag-to-tag communications. DASH7 devices operate on a single global frequency and are interoperable “out of the box” regardless of application and by design do not require cumbersome application profiles. DASH7 is the brand given to the ISO 18000-7 standard for active RFID similar to the use of the WiFi brand for IEEE 802.11 communications.

About the DASH7 Alliance

Formed in 2009, the DASH7 Alliance is a non-profit industry consortium with more than 50 participants that promotes the use of the ISO 18000-7 standard for wireless sensor networking. Device integrators, semiconductor vendors, systems integrators, academia, and end-users work together to bring DASH7 technology to many industries and applications. Participating organizations include Analog Devices, Arira Design, Cambridge University, Chung Nam Electronics, Confidex, Damco, DH Technology, Dow, Evigia Systems, Guard RFID, Identec Solutions, KPC, Lockheed Martin, Lyngsoe Systems, Melexis, MET Laboratories, Michelin, OnAsset Intelligence, Revere Security, RFind, Semtech, Savi Technology, ST Microelectronics, Syrma, Texas Instruments, U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Department of Energy, University of Nebraska, University of Wisconsin, and VI Service Network. Membership is open to end users, technology providers and research organizations. For more information, please visit www.dash7.org.

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