



General Information Frequently Asked Questions PCI-SIG®

Q: Who controls the development and enhancement of the PCI™ bus specification?

A: PCI-SIG® is the industry organization that is chartered with maintenance of the PCI bus specification. Formed in June 1992, PCI-SIG effectively places ownership and management of the PCI specifications in the hands of the developer community. PCI-SIG works to support new requirements to the specification while maintaining backward compatibility for all PCI revisions and addenda. PCI-SIG works on behalf of the entire industry, not specific vendor interests.

Q: Who leads PCI-SIG?

A: PCI-SIG is led by a board of directors whose current members are Agilent Technologies, AMD, Dell, HP, IBM, Intel, LSI Corporation, NVIDIA, and Oracle. The board of directors elects a chairman to act as chief spokesperson. Al Yanes of IBM is the current chairman of the PCI-SIG.

Q: Is PCI-SIG primarily a U.S. organization?

A: PCI-SIG is a global organization bringing benefits and technical support to companies throughout Europe, Japan, Asia and North America. The SIG engages in workshops and seminars for its international members in order to keep the global developer audience up to date on PCI technology. PCI-SIG currently has more than 800 member companies.

Q: What are the benefits of PCI-SIG membership?

A: PCI-SIG membership is an important element in developing PCI products. Only PCI-SIG members are allowed to participate in compliance workshops and technology seminars, they receive free technical support and automated updates on ECNs, and they are proactively informed of ongoing news of the PCI-SIG and the development of PCI products and specifications.

Q: How does a customer know whether or not a product is compliant with the current specification?

A: Developers of PCI products are bound by an honor code to ensure that their products are compliant to the most current version of the PCI specification. A list of compliant products, known as the Integrator's List, is available to members only at PCI-SIG's website at www.pcisig.com.

Q: How do ECNs affect the base specification?

A: ECNs are improvements to the specification that are officially approved by PCI-SIG yet don't demand a full-scale revision to the specification. All approved ECNs are considered part of the current specification and must be implemented to maintain compliance. For a list of the most current ECNs, please visit the PCI-SIG website at www.pcisig.com.

Q: Where can I obtain PCI-SIG specifications?

A: All specifications are available and can be ordered from the PCI-SIG website www.pcisig.com or by calling 503-619-0569. Hard copy specifications are available for non-

member or member purchase on the PCI-SIG website. Only members are able to download specifications from the website.

Q: How do I get technical support for PCI specifications?

A: Technical support for PCI-SIG specifications is one of the many benefits of membership. QuestTech is providing technical support and may be reached at techsupp@pcisig.com.