



NEWS RELEASE

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PCI-X 2.0 Compliance Testing to Begin in August 2003

Members Can Test Designs Prior to Launch

PORTLAND, Ore. – March 25, 2003 – The PCI-SIG™, the Special Interest Group responsible for PCI-X™, PCI Conventional™, and PCI Express™ industry-standard I/O technologies, today announced that compliance testing for PCI-X 2.0 will begin at the Fall 2003 PCI-SIG Compliance Workshop, scheduled for August 2003.

The PCI-X 2.0 specification was officially released in July 2002. Now, in preparation for the launch of new products based on the PCI-X 2.0 specification, the PCI-SIG has added PCI-X 2.0 compliance testing to its compliance workshops. The compliance workshops provide a forum for member companies to test product designs for compliance with many key aspects of the specification, and also provide for interoperability testing. Products that pass the compliance and interoperability testing are added to the PCI-SIG Integrator's List.

“The PCI-SIG understands that a lot of early testing takes place behind the scenes. The compliance workshops are not intended to replace this highly-effective way of debugging and testing designs, but rather provide an opportunity for participants to demonstrate their product compliance with key aspects of the specification, and demonstrate interoperability with the other products at the workshop, prior to product launch,” said Al Yanes, president of the PCI-SIG.

Event dates, location and registration information for the Fall 2003 PCI-SIG Compliance Workshop will be available on the PCI-SIG Web site later this spring. Members may sign up online to receive registration information, as it becomes available, at http://www.pcisig.com/events/compliance_workshop/pcix_20.

Additional information about the PCI-SIG compliance program can be found at http://www.pcisig.com/developers/compliance_program.

Benefits of PCI-SIG Membership

All PCI-SIG members can participate in the PCI-SIG compliance workshops to test their PCI-X 2.0 designs. If your company is interested in becoming a member, please visit the PCI-SIG web site at <http://www.pcisig.com/membership>. PCI-SIG members develop and maintain this and

other PCI-SIG specifications and are actively involved in defining compliance criteria and checklists, as well as other technical enabling collateral.

About the PCI-X 2.0 Specification

The PCI-X 2.0 spec is a new, higher speed version of the conventional PCI standard, which supports signaling speeds up to 533 megatransfers per second (MTS). Revision 1.0 of the PCI-X specification defined PCI-X 66 and PCI-X 133 devices that transferred data up to 133 MTS, or over 1Gbyte per second for a 64-bit device. The present revision adds two new speed grades: PCI-X 266 and PCI-X 533, offering up to 4.3 gigabytes per second of bandwidth – 32 times faster than the first generation of PCI.

PCI-X 2.0 technology is built on the same architecture, protocols, signals, and connector as PCI Conventional. The reuse of many of the design elements from the conventional PCI and PCI-X 1.0 standard eases design and implementation migration. Migration to PCI-X 266 and PCI-X 533 is further simplified by retaining hardware and software compatibility with previous generations of PCI and PCI-X. As a result, new designs can immediately connect with hundreds of PCI and PCI-X products that are currently available.

Another major feature of the PCI-X 2.0 specification is enhanced system reliability. Error checking and correcting (ECC) support has been added both for the header and payload, providing automatic single-bit error correction and double-bit error detection. These new updates keep pace with upcoming advances in high-bandwidth business-critical applications such as Fibre Channel, RAID, networking, InfiniBand™ Architecture, SCSI, and iSCSI.

For more than ten years, the PCI-SIG has been developing the world's most popular bus technology. The PCI-X 2.0 266 MHz and 533 MHz standards lay the groundwork for the next decade, and further backwards-compatible extensions are planned beyond 533 MHz.

About the PCI-SIG

The PCI-SIG is the Special Interest Group that owns and manages PCI specifications as open industry standards. The organization defines and implements new industry standard I/O (Input/Output) specifications as the industry's local I/O needs evolve. The PCI Special Interest Group was formed in 1992, and the organization became a nonprofit corporation, officially named "PCI-SIG" in the year 2000. Currently, more than 860 industry-leading companies are active PCI-SIG members worldwide. The PCI-SIG's current directors are employed by the following PCI-SIG member companies: Adaptec, AMD, HP, IBM, Intel, Microsoft, Phoenix Technologies, ServerWorks and Texas Instruments. For more information about the PCI-SIG, and PCI-SIG membership benefits, contact the PCI-SIG by phone, at (503) 291-2569 (within the United States), or by fax at (503) 297-1090, or visit the PCI-SIG web site at <http://www.pcisig.com>.

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