



Portable Computer and  
Communications Association

<http://www.pcca.org>

# ***Newsletter***

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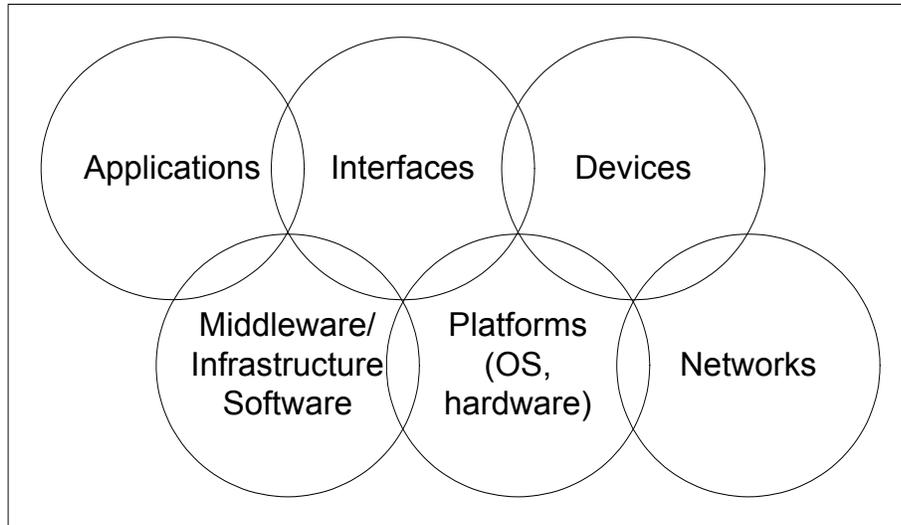
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## INTRODUCTION

This is the eighth year of this newsletter, and even longer for this organization. Whereas the PCCA began as a standards organization focusing on the wireless-data industry, it now enjoys success in addressing interoperability issues, as well as gaps between existing standards organizations. The PCCA's objective is to examine the overlap of:



Other standards groups tend to focus on individual overlaps in their specifications, but the PCCA takes a broader view to determine how all the parts fit together to produce effective and easy-to-use solutions.

## NEXT MEETING – AUGUST 19-20 – EDGE

The next PCCA meeting will be August 19-20 in Indianapolis, IN. Thanks to Cingular Wireless for hosting this meeting.

### Background

Operators have successfully deployed GPRS globally. Now operators are preparing to launch a new radio technology for GPRS called Enhanced Data Rates for GSM Evolution. EDGE promises to triple data rates and double network capacity. The purpose of this meeting is to present and discuss details of the technology, including deployment status, device availability and supported applications. Questions targeted for the meeting include:

- How does EDGE work?
- What are the applications for EDGE versus GPRS and UMTS?
- What are the implications of EDGE on devices, middleware and infrastructure software and applications?



- What are expected EDGE deployments?
- Who are the different groups driving EDGE adoption?
- How does EDGE compare with CDMA2000 technologies?
- How can EDGE and WLAN hotspots be combined?

## Preliminary Agenda

The meeting will be over two days, with a workshop on the first day, and a meeting the second day.

**August 19 - Workshop.** We will be holding an interoperability workshop that emphasizes end-to-end application deployment over EDGE. This workshop is open to vendors of devices, infrastructure software, platforms and wireless applications. Note that participants can choose to conduct testing privately, and we only publish testing results that are not considered sensitive.

The purpose of the workshop is for companies to confirm operation or identify issues that they can individually resolve. The purpose is not to embarrass companies, nor to publicly expose specific problems. However, if there are general issues that apply to a technology or the industry overall, then we will raise the appropriate awareness.

Ron Smith of Intel, chair of the PCCA Wireless Workshop Task Force, will be coordinating the workshop.

**August 20 - Meeting.** This meeting will summarize testing results from the workshop, and will consist of presentations on EDGE technology, including capabilities, integration with other networks, applications consideration and deployment.

Meeting time: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The preliminary agenda is as follows.

- Introductions
- Organization update and future meetings
- High-level review of workshop results
- Presentations related to EDGE technology
- Other presentations to be determined
- Impacts and consequences of EDGE technology
- Discussion and analysis

We are currently soliciting contributions to this meeting. Please send us any ideas you may have.

## Meeting Logistics

The workshop and meeting will be at a hotel in Indianapolis. Details will be posted soon.

## Registration

If you are interested in attending this meeting, please register by sending e-mail to [pcca@pcca.org](mailto:pcca@pcca.org). Please include your name, company name, e-mail address and phone number.



Non-member organizations that have not attended a prior PCCA meeting, interested in the topic and wishing to learn about the PCCA, may attend for a fee of \$350 per person. This fee can be applied towards membership. For others, please contact us for arrangements.

## THE PAST AND FUTURE OF THE PCCA

The PCCA mission is to promote interoperability for mobile computing and communications through analysis, standards, recommendations and testing. Beginning in 1993 as a standards organization, since 2000 the PCCA has used a symposium format to analyze key industry topics. These have included:

- Tethering and personal-area networking developments including Bluetooth, IR, USB and ultra wideband (UWB).
- Mobile IP, Application Persistence and Roaming.
- Enterprise adoption of Cellular Data - Barriers and Solutions. Co-hosted with the Open Group.
- Wireless hot spots: client considerations and cellular integration.
- Enterprise applications and cellular-data networks.
- Details of CDMA2000.
- Wireless VPNS, Wireless Security.
- Integration of wireless personal-area, local-area and wide-area networks.
- PDA Platforms and Wireless Networking.
- GPRS Interoperability.
- Joint meeting with Mobile Computing Promotion Consortium of Japan. Wireless Data Interoperability.
- Mobile Management. Co-hosted by the Wireless Data Forum and the Open Group.
- Wireless Device Interface Issues
- The Impact of Internet Standards on Wireless Networks
- VPNs and Wireless.

At each meeting, attendees have been able to receive information at a good blend of depth and breadth simply not available in other industry organizations.

We are currently focused on:

1. End-to-end connectivity and interoperability issues. (E.g., integration of applications, VPNs, platforms, devices, interfaces and networks.)
2. Multi-network operation. (E.g., coexistence of WLAN/cellular technologies.)
3. Whatever our members indicate is the most important to them. (So speak up and participate.)

Other topics that we are tracking include:

- WLAN hotspots.
- Deployment, platform and device considerations of IP version 6.
- Voice over IP over wireless.
- Mobile messaging, including SMS, MMS and wireless instant messaging.
- Next generation networks, including CDMA2000 1X-EV and UMTS.



The direction of the PCCA is a regular topic for the quarterly PCCA board conference calls. However, we are always open to input from anybody participating in the PCCA. This organization is only as useful as it is relevant to individual participants.

## **BENEFITS OF PCCA MEMBERSHIP**

At a time when every business line item must be fully justified, it may be useful to state what members find beneficial about their membership. Foremost, members help advance the industry, and presumably the success of their own companies by improving interoperability of wireless solutions. Members also obtain technical insight into industry issues and complexities, allowing them to develop better products and services. This technical content is archived for members in a members-only section of the PCCA web site. Many members also find it very valuable to network with other key contacts from other companies.

## **REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS NEWSLETTER**

On June 9, 2003, we sent a request for contributions to this mailing list, indicating that the 339 people on the PCCA mailing list are an ideal group to receive any technical recommendations, standards, recommendations, initiatives or even opinions. The response was limited, but the offer remains open for future releases of this newsletter.

## **LAST MEETING: MAY 28, 2003**

### **Tethering and Personal-Area Networking Developments**

We held this meeting on May 28, 2003 at Microsoft, Redmond, WA and we would like to thank Microsoft for hosting this meeting.

Thirty-one people from the following organizations attended the meeting:

AT&T Wireless, Boeing, Intel, MCCI, Medtronic Physio-Control, MCPC/Toshiba, Microsoft, Microsage Wireless, NetMotion Wireless, Psion Teklogix, Rysavy Research, Sony Ericsson, Sierra Wireless, WideRay and Xybec Solutions.

The presentations were as follows. Note that copies of all these presentations are available to PCCA members in the member's section of the PCCA Web site. If you are a member but don't have a user ID and password, contact us as per the contact information at the end of this newsletter.

#### **Presentation, "The Current state of Bluetooth® Wireless Technology", Michael W. Foley, Ph.D., Microsoft**

Mike Foley gave an overview of Bluetooth technology, including market status, qualification program, and interoperability and usage issues. He described what the Bluetooth Special Interest Group is doing to address some of these issues. Support for different profiles has caused some market confusion as not all Bluetooth products necessarily interoperate with each other. Mike described how Microsoft is supporting Bluetooth in its operating systems. Mike recommended how a PAN profile can



overcome the limitations of approaches such as Dial-Up Networking (DUN) and virtual COM ports.

**Presentation, "Report on Bluetooth Connectivity Test", "Wake-up Mechanisms", MCPC**

Masahiro Hataguchi of Toshiba/MCPC described detailed tests that the MCPC completed in Japan on Bluetooth interoperability. This seventh MCPC Bluetooth Interoperability Workshop was held February 20-21, 2003. He also described how new products have implemented the MCPC Wake-up Functions. These functions have also been standardized by the PCCA in STD-101 Annex O.

**Presentation, "Medical Devices: Defibrillators - Current Use Cases and Personal Area Networking Concerns", Rick Kunz, Jim Neumiller, Medtronic Physio-Control.**

Rick Kunz and Jim Neumiller described Medtronic Physio-Control's defibrillator and monitoring products, and their use of wireless technology. Originally, this involved cellular-data connections, but increasingly, WLAN and WPAN technologies are becoming important. For example, Bluetooth can be used to eliminate cables to sensors.

**Presentation, "UWB Communications Technology: PANs or LANs?", Richard Paine, Boeing**

Richard Paine gave an explanation of UWB technology, and its applicability to WLAN and WPAN networking. At this time, UWB is better suited for cable replacement applications at short distances, but with possible changes in FCC rules in the future, UWB could be considered for WLANs. Richard also projected Boeing's adoption of wireless technologies into the future, and also discussed 802.11 service in airplanes.

**Presentation, "USB and USB On-the-Go", Paul Berg, MCCI**

Paul Berg explained how USB On-the-Go will allow convenient, high-speed connections between devices such as PDA to phone or camera to printer which today cannot be done using USB. He described the connectors, power management and new protocols used. On-the-Go can be full speed (12 Mbps) or high speed (480 Mbps). Paul clarified a lot of typical implementation misconceptions about USB.

**Presentation, "Challenges in Configuring Bluetooth Wireless Modems", Taranjeet S. Athwal, Microsage Wireless**

Taranjeet Athwal described the current difficulties in configuring Bluetooth to work correctly. He showed all the steps involved in setting up a successful dial-up connection. He showed the simplified steps a user goes through in configuring a Bluetooth connection using Microsage's software. The lessons learned included solving specific problems as explicitly as possible, and making configuration as automatic as possible.

**Presentation, "Handset Adoption of Short-Range Wireless", Saul Kato, Wideray**

Saul Kato described the evolving market dynamics of local area technologies versus wide area technologies, and the synergies between the two. First generation connectivity is laptop to phone for example, but it is second generation connectivity



that will drive the market, such as proximity services. These can include content, application delivery, data synchronization, secure transactions, net access and peer to peer. Saul gave good examples of how local-area transactions can set the stage for wide area communications.

## **No Shows at PCCA Meetings**

We would like to thank those people who registered for the last meeting, but then informed us they would not be able attend. We arrange meals, refreshments, seating and power strips based on the number of attendees. If registrants don't attend, the hosting company pays for items that go unused.

## **+WS46 Parameter Value Changes**

On March 22, 2003, the 3GPP (TSG-T2) requested a change in PCCA standard STD-101 +WS46 parameter values. The official change request was change PCCA STD-101 +WS46 parameter values from:

12: GSM  
22: WCDMA  
25: GPRS

to:

12: GERAN  
22: UTRAN only  
25: GERAN and UTRAN

This proposed change was previously distributed to the PCCA electronic mailing list. No organization has objected to the change. The MCPC, in particular, has reviewed the change request and accepts the change.

We took an official vote on the proposed change at the May 28 meeting and it was accepted unanimously. We have also sent an official letter to the 3GPP documenting this change.

Note. The acronyms used above are defined as follows:

GSM: Global System for Mobile Communications  
GERAN: GSM EDGE Radio Access Network  
GPRS: General Packet Radio Service  
UMTS: Universal Mobile Telecommunications System  
UTRAN: UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access Network  
WCDMA: Wideband CDMA

## **Spam Control on PCCA Mailing List**

Are you concerned that being on the PCCA mailing list increases your spam exposure? You don't need to worry as we have implemented extensive spam protection measures. First, we do not disclose any e-mail addresses (except our own) in our postings.



Second, the only place where member e-mail addresses appear are in the detailed meeting minutes. However, these are stored in a restricted area of our Web site available only to PCCA members. Third, only PCCA list members can post to the PCCA mailing list, and we monitor list membership closely. Fourth, the newsletter now only presents e-mail addresses in graphical format so they cannot be obtained by automated e-mail address harvesters.

## 2003 MEETINGS

The PCCA meets once per quarter. The next meeting, on EDGE, is described above in detail. We are currently planning the Q4, 2003 meeting.

For any company wishing to host a meeting; please send an e-mail to [pcca@pcca.org](mailto:pcca@pcca.org). Why would you want to host a meeting? There are two reasons. First, it is often less expensive to host a meeting in your local area than to travel to one. Second, the hosting company is invited to present information about its products and services in a host presentation at the beginning of the meeting.

For the latest information on PCCA meetings and other events, see <http://www.pcca.org/news/news.htm>.

## SUMMARY OF CURRENT WORK

This section summarizes the work currently underway by the standards and architecture committee.

- **Quarterly Meetings.** These meetings are used to plan our work, provide updates on work projects, and then focus in depth on technical issues facing the industry. At each meeting we analyze one or more major topics using a symposium format that consists of technical presentations followed by discussion.
- **Interoperability Workshops.** The PCCA regularly holds interoperability workshops that address usage, development, and deployment of mobile devices, networks, and applications. We have held GPRS and CDMA2000 1XRTT workshops so far, using network provided by AT&T Wireless, Cingular Wireless, T-Mobile and Verizon Wireless.
- **Wireless Extensions to NDIS.** These objects, which now include support for GPRS, are available in Microsoft Windows. We are working with Microsoft to examine how the OS, protocol stacks, and applications can best take advantage of these objects. Future appendices will define support for UMTS and CDMA2000.

## ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

This is the newsletter of the Portable Computer and Communications Association. Effective 2000, this newsletter has been distributed via e-mail. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep PCCA members current with the activities and directions of the PCCA. This newsletter is published on a quarterly basis and is distributed to everybody



on the PCCA mailing list, including both PCCA members and non-members. Prior copies of this newsletter are available at <http://www.pcca.org/news/news.htm>.

We welcome contributions. If you have any topics or articles you would like to contribute, please contact us at [pcca@pcca.org](mailto:pcca@pcca.org). (Note: e-mail addresses are presented graphically to protect against harvesting for spam purposes.) The editor of this newsletter and chair of the PCCA Standards and Architecture Committee is Peter Rysavy, [rysavy@rysavy.com](mailto:rysavy@rysavy.com), 1-541-386-7475. For questions about PCCA membership, please contact PCCA Director Gloria Kowalski, [pcca@pcca.org](mailto:pcca@pcca.org), 1-541-490-5140.