



Portable Computer and Communications Association

<http://www.pcca.org>

Newsletter

April 14, 2000

Volume 5, Number 2

Published Quarterly
Editor: Peter Rysavy
<http://www.rysavy.com>

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION.....	2
BOARD OF DIRECTORS – ELECTION RESULTS.....	2
BOARD CONFERENCE CALL OF APRIL 11	3
SPONSORS	3
MEMBERSHIP UPDATE	3
NON-MEMBER PARTICIPATION AT PCCA MEETINGS	4
STANDARDS BALLOTS.....	5
DCI OFFERS PCCA MEMBERS A SPECIAL DISCOUNT	5
WEB PAGE.....	5
SUMMARY OF THE LAST MEETING	6
STANDARDS AND ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE – MAY MEETING	6
FUTURE MEETINGS	7
URLS FOR WIRELESS STANDARDS AND ORGANIZATIONS	7
INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS	7
STANDARDS ORGANIZATIONS	8

INTRODUCTION

This is the newsletter of the Portable Computer and Communications Association. Effective 2000, this newsletter is 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. This newsletter is distributed to everybody on the PCCA mailing list, including both PCCA members and PCCA non-members. Certain content however may be restricted to PCCA member companies and resides on the PCCA Web page in a members-only section.

We welcome contributions. If you have any topics or articles you would like to contribute, please contact us. For questions about PCCA membership, please contact PCCA Director Gloria Kowalski, 541-490-5140.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – ELECTION RESULTS

By Gloria Kowalski.

Please join me in welcoming our new Board of Directors for the PCCA.

Executive:

Chris Burke	Motorola
Boris Fridman	Nettech Systems
Masahiro Hataguchi	MCPC/Toshiba
Michael Hlavaty-Laposa	AT&T Wireless Services
Jim Hobbs	BellSouth Wireless Data
Robert O'Hara	Microsoft
Jim Panian	Ericsson
Peter Rysavy	Rysavy Research
Andrew Seybold	Andrew Seybold's Outlook
Ron Smith	Intel

Associate:

Gib Hoxie	Pacific Group
Joe Korb	GoAmerica Communications
Dave Robins	American Mobile
Ali Sharif	Melard Technologies
Emil Sturniolo	WRQ

We are very fortunate to have the expertise and diversity of so many individuals and the companies they represent. The board is responsible for the management of the organization, membership policies and strategic direction.

BOARD CONFERENCE CALL OF APRIL 11

The board holds three conference calls each year and one meeting. The new board held its first conference call on April 11. Items covered included our financial status, membership status, meeting policies and new initiatives.

The board reelected Jim Hobbs of BellSouth Wireless Data as president of the PCCA. Jim Hobb's background at BellSouth is as follows:

- 1985 to 1987. Director of business planning
- 1988 to 1989. Domestic wireless mergers and acquisitions
- 1989 to 1990. International wireless mergers and acquisitions
- 1990 to 1991. BellSouth Chief Strategist - Wireless
- 1991 to current. Vice President - Mobile Data

From 1994 to 1997 he was the chairman of the Mobitex Operators Association. Jim has been a PCCA board member since 1996.

Andy Seybold remains Chairman of the Board.

The board also voted on a new policy for non-members attending PCCA meetings, described further below.

SPONSORS

I would like to thank the following companies for sponsoring me this year as chair of the Standards and Architecture Committee:

- [Intel](#)
- [Microsoft](#)
- [Xircom](#)

Since the current dues structure of the PCCA covers only our administrative expenses, I would not be able to participate in this committee without sponsorship. This committee produces the core technical work of the PCCA.

Prior sponsors include AT&T Wireless Services and Motorola, as well as Ericsson which sponsored Bill Frezza before I took over this chair position.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Gloria Kowalski. (Company information provided by the respective companies).

The PCCA welcomes our newest members.

Widcomm, Inc. Dave Cook (former PCCA board member), Staff Scientist

Founded in 1998, Widcomm Inc. designs and manufactures wireless technology products used in short-range radio frequency (RF) voice and data communications. The company's first product offerings include software and hardware solutions based on the Bluetooth wireless connectivity standard. Widcomm's products allow a variety of hand-held mobile devices – including PCs, cellular phones, PDAs and laptops - to communicate using Bluetooth-based technology.

Metricom, Inc. Dr. Mike W. Ritter, Chief Technology Officer

Metricom, Inc. designs, provisions, and operates digital networks and services for mobile users. As a leading provider of mobile information access, Metricom offers Ricochet -- the always-on, high-speed, secure solution that provides access to information from outside the confines of an office or any single location.

Mobile professionals can finally be set free from the office with high-performance, cost-effective access to the Internet, private Intranets, LANs, e-mail and other online services.

Ricochet 128 Kbps service will be expanding into 12 major markets in 2000, and is expected to cover 100 million people by 2001.

CWW, Inc. Richard Prete, President

CWW, Inc is actually involved in one of the less technically demanding aspects of mobile computing. They design and manufacture cases to carry the equipment. They have worked with some of the largest producers and end users of pen based systems in the country to supply cases helping to implement the field roll out of their equipment.

Sierra Wireless. Parm Sandhu, Principal Engineer

As a leading provider of wireless data communications hardware and software products, Sierra Wireless is strategically positioned at the convergence of the Internet, mobile computing and wireless communications that is transforming how the world works.

Sierra Wireless excels in developing breakthrough wireless modems and network interface devices that enable existing and emerging technologies to achieve their full potential. The company is not only the primary innovator in Cellular Digital Packet Data (CDPD) technology, but has also engineered strong strategic relationships for products supporting QUALCOMM's cdmaOne(TM) and cdma2000(TM) technologies, AT&T Wireless EDGE and Metricom's Ricochet networks.

NON-MEMBER PARTICIPATION AT PCCA MEETINGS

The board has enacted a new policy for non-member participation at PCCA meetings. Non-members may attend up to two PCCA meetings as observers for a fee of \$300 per company per meeting. This fee can be applied towards an associate or executive membership. Members, of course, don't have to pay anything.

Why this change? The PCCA has always prided itself on being an open organization that encourages the participation of the entire industry. However, despite having minimal overhead the PCCA has operating expenses,. We depend on memberships to sustain us. We feel the \$300 is a

modest fee that keeps the organization open for people interested in our activities, but also encourages companies to join the PCCA.

Our associate membership at \$1000/year or executive membership at \$2000/year is a small fraction of what it costs to belong to most other industry organizations.

STANDARDS BALLOTS

We are preparing the following standards for a vote by PCCA membership using a letter ballot process.

- PCCA STD-201: Extensions to NDIS for Wireless WANs, Appendix H: GPRS Objects.
- PCCA STD-101: Serial Asynchronous Automatic Dialing and Control for Character Mode DCE on Wireless Data Services, Annex O: Wake-up Commands. This annex is being submitted by the Mobile Computing Promotion Consortium of Japan.

We are planning on sending out the revised STD-201 for ballot in May.

See <http://www.pcca.org/standards-com/index.html> for more information about standards of the PCCA.

DCI OFFERS PCCA MEMBERS A SPECIAL DISCOUNT

By Gloria Kowalski.

DCI's Summit on Wireless Computing conference/expo is September 12-14 at the Hyatt Regency in Orlando, Florida. (See <http://www.dci.com/brochure/wireorl/>). The event will consist of presentations and vendor displays that will educate attendees on the many aspects of device selection, pervasive connections, mobilization of applications, costs of deployment, support of users, as well as other topics on helping to re-think the way companies deliver applications and information. By attending, you'll be able to understand the various aspects of extending your organization beyond current brick and mortar boundaries, selecting the appropriate products and services available to accomplish this, and the steps and strategies required to be successful. PCCA members will receive a \$200 discount when they call DCI Customer Service at 978-470-3880. Please identify yourself as a member of the association, and, be sure to refer to Source Code# EPMTLOO. PCCA members may also register on-line at <http://www.dci.com>. Discount travel and hotel rates for the event are available through DCI's in-house travel agency, CATS. The CATS phone number is 800-767-2755.

WEB PAGE

We are developing a new “look and feel” for the PCCA Web page. Though we are keeping the information on the Web page current, the current appearance is a little dated. Expect to see the new version up in the next month.

SUMMARY OF THE LAST MEETING

We had a highly successful meeting on the topics of virtual private networks (VPNs) and wireless in New Orleans on March 1. Thirty-eight people attended with the following companies represented: Aironet, American Mobile, AT&T Wireless Services, Aventail, Bell Mobility, Brad Fisher, Cadence Chrysalis-ITS, Cisco, Diversinet, Ericsson, GTE, Intel, MCPC, Microsoft, Nettek Systems, Nextcell, Omnipoint, Open Group, Outlook, Phone.com, Rysavy Research, Shiva, Sierra Wireless, Sprint PCS, Stick Networks, Toshiba, WRQ and The Yankee Group.

The following organizations made presentations on topics related to VPNs and Wireless.

- ❑ Customer perspective on Wireless and VPNs - Gregory Gorman, Open Group
- ❑ IPsec Fundamentals - Jesse Walker, Intel/Shiva
- ❑ Diversinet Wireless Security Technology - Hussam Mahgoub, Diversinet
- ❑ Security in WAP and future directions - Michael Luna, Phone.com
- ❑ AT&T Virtual Private Networking - Bonnie Beeman, AT&T Wireless Services
- ❑ Cisco Packet Data Serving Node (PDSN) for 2.5G and 3G CDMA - Read Bell, Cisco
- ❑ VPN Features in Windows 2000 - Jim Goweler, Microsoft

Minutes of the meeting and copies of these presentations are available in the members area of the PCCA Web page, <http://www.pcca.org/private/index.html>, with the exception of the presentation by Phone.com which was verbal.

STANDARDS AND ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE – MAY MEETING

The next meeting of the PCCA Standards and Architecture committee will focus on the impact of Internet standards on wireless networks. The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) is involved in many new standards and activities that will have a broad impact on wireless networks. The significance and the scope of these IETF efforts is not well documented nor well understood. The impact spans from wireless devices through infrastructure to customer applications.

This meeting will address this topic through special presentations, contributions and discussion. It will be hosted by Motorola in Chicago on May 31.

We are pleased that Brian Carpenter of IBM has agreed to present the findings of a recent workshop on this topic held by the IETF Architecture Board. Chris Burke of Motorola, long time contributor to the PCCA and host of this meeting, will give a presentation that presents an overview of IETF work related to wireless networking. Chris has been concentrating on this topic for some time now. We plan on additional prominent speakers.

For full details about this meeting, including the agenda, see <http://www.pcca.org/news/ag00-05.html>. To register for the meeting, send e-mail to the PCCA and provide your name, company name, e-mail address and phone number.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Beyond the May meeting, future meetings of the standards and architecture committee are currently scheduled as follows:

- August 23, 2000. Redmond, WA. New Interfaces to Wireless Devices
- October 18. Santa Clara. Mobile Management. Coincides with Wireless IT Conference.
- February 2001. Maui, Hawaii. Proposed joint meeting with Mobile Computing Promotion Consortium of Japan

For the latest information on PCCA meetings, see <http://www.pcca.org/news/index.html>.

URLS FOR WIRELESS STANDARDS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The following is a list of URLs for organizations involved with wireless networking. Thanks to the people that sent me these URLs. If you would like to add to these, please send me an e-mail.

Is it any surprise that there is sometimes confusion about who is doing what in this industry?

The goal of the PCCA is to harmonize our efforts with these organizations, concentrating on areas not directly addressed by these organizations.

Industry Organizations

Bluetooth, <http://www.bluetooth.com/>

CDMA Developer Group, <http://www.cdg.org/>

Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association, <http://www.wow-com.com/>

DataTAC, <http://Www.datatac.com/>

DataTAC Worldwide Wireless Data Network Operators Group, <http://Www.wwdnog.org/>

GPRS Applications Alliance, <http://www.gprsworld.com/>

GSM World, <http://www.gsmworld.com/>

HiperLAN1 Alliance, <http://www.hiperlan.com/>

HiperLAN2 Global Forum, <http://www.hiperlan2.com/>

HomeRF, <http://www.homerf.org/>

Mobile Advisory Council, <http://www.mobileadvisory.org/>

Mobile Computing Promotion Consortium, <http://www.mcpc-jp.org/>

Mobile GPRS, <http://www.mobileGPRS.com/>

Mobitex Operators Association, <http://www.mobitex.org/>

Mobile Wireless Internet Forum, <http://www.mwif.org/>

The Open Group, <http://www.opengroup.org/>

Personal Communications Industry Association, <http://www.pcia.com/>

Portable Computer and Communications Association, <http://www.pcca.org>

Universal Wireless Communications Consortium, <http://uwcc.com/>

University of New Hampshire Interoperability Lab, <http://www.iol.unh.edu/>

Wireless Data Forum, <http://www.wirelessdata.org/>

Wireless Ethernet Compatibility Alliance (WECA), <http://www.wi-fi.org>

Wireless LAN Association, <http://www.wlana.com>

WAP Forum, <http://www.wapforum.com/>

Standards Organizations

3G Partnership Project (3GPP), <http://www.3gpp.org/>

3G Partnership Project 2 (3GPP2), <http://www.3gpp2.org/>

European Telecommunications Institute, <http://www.etsi.org/>

IEEE 802.11 working group, <http://grouper.ieee.org/groups/802/11/index.html>

Internet Engineering Task Force, <http://www.ietf.org/>

Telecommunications Industry Association, <http://www.tiaonline.org/>