



Portable Computer and  
Communications Association

<http://www.pcca.org>

# *Newsletter*

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## 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 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. Editor: Peter Rysavy, <http://www.rysavy.com>, 541-386-7475.

## OCTOBER 18 MEETING AT WIRELESS IT

This meeting, which will focus on mobile management, will be jointly hosted by the Standards and Architecture Committee of the PCCA, the Open Group's Mobile Management Forum and the Industry Infrastructure Committee of the Wireless Data Forum.

For this meeting, we plan on a survey of mobile management areas. We will analyze the fit with respect to wireless networks. We will also include an end-customer and integrator perspective. Each organization will also present its current technical activities.

Details of the meeting are available at <http://www.pcca.org/news/ag00-10.html>

This meeting is open to Open Group, PCCA and WDF members. To register for the meeting, please send an e-mail to the PCCA with your name, company name, phone number and e-mail address.

## WIRELESS WORKSHOP TASK FORCE (WWTF) UPDATE

By Ron Smith, Intel, WWTF chairman.

The WWTF held their first phone conference on August 7, with Ericsson, Intel, Motorola, PCCA, Qualcomm, and Sierra Wireless attending. This was followed by a one hour discussion by attendees at the August 23 PCCA meeting.

Positive comments and good discussions indicate PCCA members see value for their companies and for the PCCA in having technical workshops. Here is a list of workshop reasons that I gathered from members:

- ❑ Pre-release testing: Validate prototype handsets (or other devices) with the large array of existing mobile platforms, operating systems and applications before release, minimizing problems encountered in the field.



- ❑ Applications testing: Software vendors test product resilience in wireless networks, looking at factors such as bandwidth, latency, network transparency, and middleware. Tutorial sessions can also expose software developers to API wireless extensions.
- ❑ Phone/device transport testing: Focused testing to identify/correct generic problems with USB, Bluetooth, IrDA. This would require high collaboration among participants.
- ❑ Acceptance testing: Accelerate the acceptance (or rejection) of new products by network operators (or other) by providing an opportunity for comprehensive product evaluation, plus interaction with the vendor.
- ❑ Holistic testing: Test products as part of total working solutions, as defined by agreed-upon usage models. The result: bundled solutions that bring known value to the end user.

Of course, this would all be an academic exercise without a real 2G+ wireless network to test on. The good news is that VoiceStream wants to participate in these workshops, along with their GPRS network! The next meeting (to be scheduled soon) will therefore focus on setting a date and goals for a first workshop, which will most likely be in October or November.

If you have any questions, comments, or would like to participate in the WWTF, please contact me by email or phone at: [Ronald.m.smith@intel.com](mailto:Ronald.m.smith@intel.com), 503-264-5550.

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Gloria Kowalski.

The PCCA welcomes eight new members since the last issue of this newsletter:

1. Lucas Valley Technologies, <http://www.lvtnet.com/>, Kirk Hurford, Consultant
2. MCCI, <http://www.mcci.com/>, Terrill Moore, President. Secondary member, Paul Berg
3. Mobix Communications, <http://www.mobix.com/>, Avigdor Finkelstein, CTO. Secondary member, Ester Hemli, CEO
4. Novatel Wireless, <http://www.novatelwireless.com/>, Scott Nordquist, Engineering manager
5. Sprint PCS, <http://www.sprintpcs.com/>, Dean Prochaska, Director Wireless Industry Standards. Secondary member, Edward Schlein, Manager Service Architecture Standards
6. Stick Networks, <http://www.sticknetworks.com/>, James Price, Software Architect
7. Susteen Inc, <http://www.susteen.com/>, Hiroyuki Maruyama, President. Secondary member, Mato Hattori, Director of Engineering
8. romm33, <http://www.room33.com/>, Tim Meyer, Managing Director

The following new members have submitted information about their companies for publication in this newsletter:



**MCCI** is a software intellectual property developer, specializing in high-performance system software and firmware for consumer electronics and peripheral devices that connect to PCs or to the Internet. The company has industry-leading packages for USB based networking for residential broadband (cable modems and ADSL), wireless networking, ISDN terminal adapters, POTS modems, legacy serial port migration, and USB printing. MCCI's Paul Berg and Terry Moore, chairs of the USB-IF DWG Communication Device Class committee, are leading the development of the standard mechanisms for connecting next generation wireless handsets to PCs using USB.

A privately held company, MCCI serves customers in North America, Europe and Asia-Pacific. The Ithaca, New York, company also has an engineering office in Seoul, Korea.

**Room33** is a progressive mobile software and portal technology company. Mobile communications solutions for business can be tailored to suit individual business requirements. At the portal, room33.com can be found a comprehensive and advanced range of mobile Internet services. The services package consists of personalised information, communication, entertainment and transactional mobile Internet services for all mobile users. The information and services are closely integrated and can be accessed from all digital devices connected to the Internet - for example, WAP-enabled phones and handheld computers. room33.com is a global service and is adapted to suit country-specific needs regarding content, language and culture. room33 AB was founded in 1998 in Stockholm, Sweden and is a member of the WAP Forum, the Mobile Applications Initiative (formerly the GPRS Application Alliance), Bluetooth SIG and W3C, the World Wide Web Consortium. room33 AB is supported by regional offices in London, Madrid and New York.

## STANDARDS BALLOTS PASSED

On August 11, the PCCA completed letter ballots for two standards:

- PCCA STD-201, Revision 1.1: Extensions to NDIS for Wireless WANs
- PCCA STD-101: Serial Asynchronous Automatic Dialing and Control for Character Mode DCE on Wireless Data Services, Annex O: Wake-up Commands. This annex was submitted by the Mobile Computing Promotion Consortium of Japan.

Both ballots passed with no changes required. The letter ballot versions (and other PCCA standards) are available at <http://www.pcca.org/standards/standards.htm>

## PROPOSAL FOR UNIMODEM EXTENSIONS

Jim Panian of Ericsson has proposed extensions to Unimodem for better handling of IS-95 CDMA and IS-136 TDMA data services in Windows. The introduction to this proposal is as follows:

"This paper proposes extensions to Unimodem to enable the user to select one of many CDMA or TDMA services when using Windows. Examples of services are Asynchronous



Data/Fax, Direct Access Data Services, Packet Data, and Voice Autodialing. TAPI applications such as Dial-up Networking and RAS are used to initiate wireless data connections using these services. The Windows 2000 Unimodem architecture was modified by Microsoft to accommodate a similar issue with GSM multiple services. For GSM, entries can be made into the INF file of a single GSM data modem to enable one of thirteen GSM services. The GSM service selection can be made programmatically from a TAPI application or manually from the user interface. This proposal introduces similar extensions to TAPI for CDMA and TDMA services."

Jim Panian presented this proposal at the August 23 meeting at which time Kenny Richards of Microsoft indicated that Microsoft would implement this proposal in a forthcoming version of Windows 2000. This is a good example of the constructive role the PCCA plays in enabling companies to work together to advance the industry.

For a copy of this proposal, see <http://www.pcca.org/standards/standards.htm>

## COLLABORATION WITH OTHER WIRELESS ORGANIZATIONS

The PCCA is making it a priority to work collaboratively with other wireless data organizations. There is too much work to be done to have overlapping or competitive agendas. The following summarizes our current position with respect to some other key organizations.

**Mobile Advisory Council.** Key representatives of each organization have attended meetings of the other organization and have presented information about their activities. The two groups are actively examining joint projects. Historically, the MAC has had strong representation from mobile platform vendors and the PCCA has had strong representation from wireless device vendors.

**Mobile Computing Promotion Consortium.** This Japanese organization has a similar charter to the PCCA. The MCPC and PCCA have a memorandum of understanding. The PCCA recently published a standard (Annex O to STD-101 on wake-up commands) that was submitted by the MCPC.

**Open Group.** The Open Group has a new Mobile Management Forum. Gregory Gorman, director of the MMF, has been attending PCCA meetings for the last year. The October 18 meeting will look at how the PCCA and the Open Group might work together.

**Wireless Data Forum.** The emphasis of the WDF is mostly promotional and educational. However, the WDF has a technical committee called the Industry Infrastructure Committee. The October 18 meeting will look at how the PCCA and WDF might work together.

Note that there are various other organizations active in the industry, such as the Mobile Wireless Internet Forum. We monitor the activities of these organizations, but do not approach them if their work does not overlap our work. For instance, MWIF is designing the core architecture for next generation cellular networks which is outside our scope.

We are open to suggestions on how we might work with other organizations.



## **YEAR 2001 MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Current membership dues pay for the management and operation of the PCCA. However, sponsors pay for the chair position of the PCCA standards and architecture committee. This year's sponsors are Intel, Microsoft and Xircom. Prior year sponsors include AT&T Wireless Services, Ericsson and Motorola.

The PCCA board of directors has concluded that this sponsorship imposes unduly high fees for the sponsors, while at the same time allowing other PCCA members to benefit from a dues structure that is significantly below comparable organizations. These sponsorships also raise questions regarding the neutrality of the chair position.

Effective 2001, the PCCA will increase its dues structures so that sponsors will no longer be needed for the chair position though we may still solicit sponsors for meetings and special events. These increased dues will also enable the PCCA to broaden the scope of its activities to include significant new programs such as the Wireless Workshop Task Force. The PCCA board of directors will be meeting on October 17 to finalize the dues structure. If you have any comments, please e-mail them to the PCCA.

## **SUMMARY OF MEETING MAY 31, 2000**

This standards and architecture committee meeting explored the impact of Internet standards on wireless networks. The following companies participated: AT&T Wireless Services, Ericsson, HiddenMind Technology, IBM, Intel, Motient, Motorola, Nettek Systems, Open Group, Qualcomm, Rysavy Research, Sierra Wireless, Sprint PCS, TDK, WAP Forum, WRQ, and Xircom.

Presentations, listed alphabetically by company, included:

- ❑ Very First Draft Recommendations of the IETF Architecture Board Wireless Workshop - Brian Carpenter, IBM
- ❑ Survey of IETF Wireless Activities - Chris Burke, Motorola
- ❑ Open Base Station Transport (OBAST) - Phillip Neumiller, Motorola
- ❑ WAP - W3C Convergence - Kevin Wagner, WAP Forum
- ❑ QoS in GPRS Issues - Emil Sturniolo, WRQ

Minutes of the meeting and copies of these presentations are available in the members area of the PCCA Web page at <http://www.pcca.org/private/members.htm>. Members needing a user ID and password should send e-mail to the PCCA.



## SUMMARY OF MEETING AUGUST 23, 2000

This standards and architecture committee meeting examined issues in connecting wireless devices to mobile platforms. The following companies participated: AT&T Wireless Services, Broadbeam, Compaq, Ericsson, Fujitsu/MCPC, HiddenMind Technology, Intel, Lucas Valley Technologies, MCCI, Metricom, Mobix Communications, Microsoft, Motient, Motorola, Nokia, NTT DoCoMo/MCPC, The Open Group, Qualcomm, Rysavy Research, Sierra Wireless, Sierra Wireless, Susteen, Voice Stream, WRQ and Xircom.

Presentations, listed alphabetically by company, included:

- ❑ Third Generation Wireless and AT&T Wireless Services - Mike Hlavaty-LaPosa, AT&T Wireless Services
- ❑ Proposed Unimodem Extensions for CDMA and TDMA Services - Jim Panian, Ericsson
- ❑ MCPC USB Standardization Activity for 3G Mobile Phones - Tatsuya Nakatani, MCPC/Fujitsu
- ❑ Ricochet - Mike Ritter, Metricom
- ❑ Windows Wireless Architecture, - Arun Ayyagari, Microsoft
- ❑ Bluetooth Wireless Technology Overview - Mike Foley, Microsoft
- ❑ Remote NDIS - Kenny Richards, Microsoft
- ❑ Mobile Advisory Council - Brand Saunders, Xircom
- ❑ GPRS - Murat Bilgic, VoiceStream

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/members.htm>. Members needing a user ID and password should send e-mail to the PCCA.

## FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings of the standards and architecture committee are currently scheduled as follows:

- ❑ October 18. Santa Clara. Mobile Management. Coincides with Wireless IT Conference. Co-hosted by the Wireless Data Forum and the Open Group. (See story in this issue.)
- ❑ February 7, 8. Maui, Hawaii. Joint meeting with the Mobile Computing Promotion Consortium of Japan
- ❑ May 2001. Proposed topic: wireless interface and application issues associated with handheld and palm-size computers.
- ❑ August and October/November meetings: topics and location to be determined.



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

## **WRQ NETMOTION 2.0 NOW IN BETA TESTING**

PCCA member, WRQ, has announced that its product NetMotion 2.0 is now in beta testing and is scheduled to ship in October. If you would like to become a NetMotion beta test site, connect to [http://www.wrq.com/products/netmotion/pilot\\_program.html](http://www.wrq.com/products/netmotion/pilot_program.html). NetMotion is a unique software-only solution that provides for secure persistent connections from laptops and PDAs, while enabling ubiquitous roaming across wireless LANs, WANs and other mobile interconnects. For general information about NetMotion, visit [www.wrqnetmotion.com](http://www.wrqnetmotion.com).

## **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/wireor/>) 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.