

For Immediate Release

News Release

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Ten Companies Participate in First ExpressCard Technology Compliance Workshop

Taipei, Taiwan (IDF Taiwan) Oct. 25, 2004 – PCMCIA, a leading technology trade association, today announced the successful completion of its first ExpressCard Compliance Workshop in Taiwan on Oct. 21. Ten companies, including both host system and module vendors, participated.

A total of seven host systems and 10 modules underwent testing. Participating companies included Abocom Systems, Inc.; AVerMedia Technologies, Inc.; Compal Electronics, Inc; Fujitsu Limited; and Lexar Media. Compliance program results will be available for these ground-breaking products in the next few weeks. Due to strong interest, a second compliance event will be held in December in Silicon Valley.

ExpressCard™ is the latest high-performance, hardware expansion standard for desktop and notebook computers. Products underwent stringent testing to ensure that their products follow the ExpressCard standard and are interoperable with other compliant products.

“The compliance workshop is a key milestone in the ExpressCard initiative evolution because it signals that we are on the cusp of delivering compliant products to the market,” said Brad Saunders, chairman of the PCMCIA. “As shown by the strong participation in this event, the computer hardware industry is embracing ExpressCard technology as the next I/O standard for desktops and notebooks. The momentum continues to build as we move to the next phase — ExpressCard products being generally available to consumers and businesses.”

(more)

PCMCIA Hosts First Compliance Workshop

The multi-step ExpressCard compliance process assures interoperability. The first phase features self-testing, where manufacturers submit an approved checklist of product compatibility. The second step requires developers to pass a formal testing process at a members-only compliance workshop to earn the right to display the ExpressCard logo on their compliant modules and systems. Several component vendors have already passed phase one requirements of the compliance process for components and earned the ExpressCard designation.

The ExpressCard standard is the next generation of PC Card technology used in more than 95 percent of all notebook computers for adding new hardware capabilities. Dell, HP, IBM, Intel, Lexar Media, Microsoft, SCM Microsystems and Texas Instruments are among those supporting development of the new standard under the PCMCIA umbrella.

About PCMCIA

PCMCIA is a non-profit trade association founded in 1989 to establish technical standards for PC Card technology and to promote interchangeability among computer systems. Already a feature in almost every notebook and palmtop computer, PC Card technology empowers users to configure systems and create unique, integrated solutions to meet their computing needs. Based in San Jose, California, the association has a growing membership of 125 companies worldwide. The PCMCIA also has a specification development and co-publishing relationship with the Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA) covering PC Card and Smart Media technologies.

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Editor's Note: Photos available at www.expresscard.org.