



UEFI Forum Releases UEFI 2.3.1 Specification Update and Schedules UEFI Summer Summit Interoperability & Education Event

Specification Update Benefits Windows 8 & Open Source OS Implementations

Microsoft to Host UEFI Summer Summit, July 16-20, 2012 in Redmond, WA

Highlights:

The UEFI Forum has ratified an update to the UEFI 2.3.1 Specification that adds important firmware considerations and addresses numerous engineering change requests. The updated Specification will be referred to as "UEFI 2.3.1C".

- UEFI 2.3.1C adds: *An OS Indications Variable - OS/FW feature & capability communication* – when implemented, allows end-users to make an OS menu request to enter BIOS setup after next reboot.
- UEFI 2.3.1C adds: *A mechanism which, when implemented, facilitates Open Source Operating System installations and OS- agnostic end-user configurations of retaining the factory default keys while in Setup Mode (see Specification for full technical detail of Setup Mode).*
- UEFI 2.3.1C removes: Runtime driver requirement on Network UEFI drivers - this allows UEFI drivers to be delivered in EFI Byte Code (EBC) Virtual Machine format supporting systems based on different processor architectures.
- Complete details on UEFI 2.3.1C are available at <http://www.uefi.org/specs/>

The UEFI Forum's UTWG (UEFI Test Working Group) is currently working on updating the SCT (Self-Certification Tests) to align with the latest spec changes. Please reference the following link:

http://www.uefi.org/events/UEFI_2.3.1_SCT_Release_for_Summer_Summit.zip

UEFI Summer Summit Interoperability & Education Event:

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The UEFI Testing Work Group (UTWG) and the UEFI Industry Communications Work Group (ICWG) from the Unified EFI (UEFI) Forum invite you to register for the upcoming UEFI Summer Summit: An Interoperability and Education Workshop being held this July at the Microsoft Campus in Redmond, WA.

- Hosted by Microsoft, the event is sponsored by AMD, AMI, HP, Insyde, Intel, Microsoft & Phoenix.
- Online registration for the UEFI Summer Summit can be found at: <http://www.uefi.org/events/> and <http://event.insydesw.com/insyde.swf?sid=13&op=enroll>. Please note registration is scheduled to close on July 9th.

The organizers specifically wish to encourage add-in card vendors to attend the Summit. This is the last planned Forum-sponsored opportunity to test Secure Boot functionality and the interoperability of cards with UEFI-compliant systems for 2012. With the serious industry interest in Secure Boot functionality, this Summit is an excellent opportunity to test interoperability, as well as discuss the technology with other industry members.

About UEFI

The Unified Extensible Firmware Interface (UEFI) Specification defines a model for the interface between operating systems and platform firmware. The interface consists of data tables that contain platform-related information, plus boot and runtime service calls that are available to the operating system and its loader. Together, these provide a modern, well defined environment for booting an operating system and running pre-boot applications.

The Unified EFI Forum is the group responsible for developing, managing and promoting the UEFI Specification. Please visit <http://www.uefi.org> for further information about the UEFI Specification and membership opportunities.

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