

**The Unified EFI Forum, Inc.**  
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# News Release

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## **NEW UNIFIED EFI (EXTENSIBLE FIRMWARE INTERFACE) FORUM TO MANAGE KEY FIRMWARE TO OPERATING SYSTEM SPECIFICATION**

**AMD, American Megatrends, Inc., Dell Inc., HP, Intel Corporation, International Business  
Machines Corporation, Insyde Software Corp., Microsoft Corp., and Phoenix Technologies  
Ltd. to Collaborate**

Portland, Oregon, July 25, 2005 – Leading technology companies have formed the Unified EFI Forum, Inc., a non-profit Washington corporation.

The Forum will assume responsibility from Intel for the evolution and promotion of the EFI Specification, which details an interface to hand off control of a system from the pre-boot environment to current and next-generation operating systems. EFI is already supported by a number of 64-bit operating systems and platforms, and is an emerging interface for 32-bit operating systems. The inclusion of UEFI in operating systems and platforms will advance interoperability between platforms and add-in cards and pave the way for improvements in boot performance and robustness. The Forum will review the present EFI 1.10 Specification for any required changes, and intends to publish the first Unified EFI Specification by the end of 2005. The Forum will also make available test suites for the UEFI Specification based on contributions from member companies.

Interested parties are invited to participate in the activities of the Unified EFI Forum as either Contributors or Adopters. The Promoters have agreed that licenses to any Promoter intellectual property required to implement the specification will be available on reasonable and non-discriminatory terms. More information is available at <http://www.uefi.org>.

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**AMD**

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*"AMD believes that truly open standards are fundamental to our industry and are in the best interest of both users and technology companies," said Joe Menard, Corporate Vice President, Software Strategy, AMD. "AMD's relentless promotion of this ideal has resulted in the widespread adoption of beneficial industry standards such as x86-based, simultaneous 64- and 32-bit computing, and HyperTransport™ technology. The Unified EFI Specification and the formation of the UEFI Forum can help ensure that openness continues where x86-based software and hardware meet, providing customers and suppliers the choice and flexibility they demand."*

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**American Megatrends Inc.**

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*"AMI is excited to contribute to the UEFI specification for next-generation platforms. After 20 years in the computer industry, AMI understands the importance of specifications to the evolution of the platform," said S. Shankar, AMI president and CEO. "We are glad to contribute with our expertise and creativity to improve platform reliability, security, and quality of the user experience."*

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## **Dell**

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*"Dell advocates industry standards because they drive flexibility, simplification, and lower costs for customers," said Winston Bumpus, director of standards, Dell Product Group. "EFI defines a standard, well documented, and easily extensible interface between firmware and operating systems, providing a foundation for advanced features and simplified operation."*

*Dell Inc. (NASDAQ: DELL) is a trusted and diversified information-technology supplier and partner, and sells a comprehensive portfolio of products and services directly to customers worldwide. Dell, recognized by Fortune magazine as America's most admired company and No. 3 globally, designs, builds and delivers innovative, tailored systems that provide customers with exceptional value. Company revenue for the past year was \$49.2 billion. For more information about Dell and its products and services, visit [www.dell.com](http://www.dell.com).*

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## **HP**

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*"EFI is a core component for HP's Integrity servers supporting HP's strategy to support multiple operating systems," said Jerry Huck, chief technology officer of Business Critical Servers at HP. "HP strongly supports the establishment of the Unified EFI Forum for the continuing evolution of the specification and the value it provides our customers in simplicity and boot-time capabilities."*

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## **IBM**

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*"IBM is pleased to extend our industry standards and open community leadership in developing this new UEFI initiative," said Dr. Tom Bradicich, chief technology officer, eServer xSeries and BladeCenter, IBM Systems and Technology Group, "EFI technology will ease development and integration of our future management and operating system features, continuing the advantage our customers receive from IBM servers."*

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## **Intel**

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*"The ability for computers to boot faster or operate more reliably benefits all users, from high school students to mobile knowledge workers to IT managers," said Richard Wirt, vice president, Intel senior fellow and general manager of Intel's Software and Solutions Group. "Intel began driving the EFI specification to bring further innovation to the computer BIOS, an area that hadn't been updated for many years, and this directly impacts the way computers boot and work. It's time now to transition this effort to a broad group of technology industry leaders who can continue crafting the EFI Specification and deliver it to the marketplace."*

Intel, the world's largest chip maker, is also a leading manufacturer of computer, networking and communications products. Additional information about Intel is available at [www.intel.com/pressroom](http://www.intel.com/pressroom).

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## **Insyde**

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“Insyde continues to be a strong promoter of EFI, and welcomes the formation of this new industry group,” said Rex Flynn, Insyde Software’s Principal Architect of Software Technology. “The establishment of the Unified EFI Forum and the widespread adoption of the UEFI specification will benefit suppliers and customers alike by standardizing a non-proprietary interface that can help ensure interoperability and encourage innovation.”

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## **Microsoft**

*“Microsoft is very excited about the formation of the Unified EFI Forum,” said Chris Jones, Corporate Vice President, Windows Core Operating System, Microsoft Corp. “We are pleased to take a leadership role in an organization that is managing and evolving EFI, Microsoft believes that EFI is a key technology in the continued evolution and innovations of the core platform and expect strong industry participation in the Unified EFI Forum.”*

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## **Phoenix Technologies Ltd.**

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*“Phoenix is pleased to contribute our long-standing knowledge and expertise in the BIOS and core system software industry, towards the unification of EFI,” said Michael D. Goldgof, senior vice president and general manager, Corporate Marketing and Products Division, Phoenix Technologies. “We support the formation of the Unified EFI and look forward to the opportunities this open standard will provide our customers.”*