

06/03/02

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Dear Dr. Marks:

On behalf of Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access (WiMAX) Forum, I would like extend congratulations to the IEEE 802.16 Working Group on Broadband Wireless Access for its success. We believe that the completion of **IEEE Standard 802.16®** is a landmark achievement in consensus engineering that will provide an outstanding technological basis for the future success of the broadband wireless access industry worldwide. The imminent completion of IEEE P802.16a will extend that success, under the same technical umbrella, to lower frequencies.

The WiMAX Forum is dedicated to accelerating the deployment of fixed broadband wireless access systems based on IEEE Standard 802.16, primarily by developing and implementing compliance and interoperability test procedures. It will promote interoperability by:

1. drafting basic MAC and PHY profiles for the most common deployment opportunities;
2. developing interoperability test documents to ensure that equipment implementing a specific profile are interoperable, and;
3. providing a certification body to verify compliance and interoperability.

To further promote worldwide acceptance of IEEE Standard 802.16, all documentation is being produced in accordance with the ISO/IEC 9646-x series of standards for test documentation; this is identical to the ITU-T 290.x series of standards. The documentation includes:

1. Protocol Implementation Conformance Statements (PICS) proforma document detailing the mandatory and optional features of the profiles;
2. Test Suite Structure and Test Purposes (TSS&TP) document, and;
3. Abstract Test Suite (ATS) document.

The WiMAX Forum was founded with the intent of supporting the approved IEEE Standard 802.16 as has, until recently, focussed on the 10-66 GHz bands. Given the advanced state of the 2-11 GHz P802.16a draft amendment, and the fact that significant elements of compliance testing will be common across the entire 2-66 GHz spectrum, WiMAX is now expanding its horizons to include the 2-11 GHz bands under IEEE Standard 802.16/802.16a.



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The next WiMAX Technical Working Group meeting is planned for the week of April 22 at:

WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL
1140 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 810
Washington, D.C. 20036

The portion of the session starting at 1:00 Wednesday, April 24, through noon Friday, April 26 will be dedicated to introduction of WiMAX to 2-11 GHz participants and forming the various work groups necessary to accommodate this expansion. The meeting is open, and we welcome all 802.16 participants.

Sincerely,
Kenneth L. Stanwood
Chair, WiMAX Technical Working Group
<http://wimaxforum.org>