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**MPV PROVIDES STANDARD PLAYLIST SPECIFICATION
FOR PC/CE DIGITAL CONVERGENCE**

***OSTA Developing New Specifications to Enhance Compatibility
Between PCs and Consumer Electronics Products***

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — January 7, 2004 — Today, the Optical Storage Technology Association (OSTA) announced the development of a MPV™ (MusicPhotoVideo) CE Playlist Specification specifically aimed at improved compatibility of digital media content between PCs and consumer electronics (CE) products. A MPV playlist is a control file format that allows easy navigation and improved playback of large collections of personal music, photos, and video files in a standard format for use on PCs, DVD players and recorders, digital cameras, and other CE products.

Consumers Enjoy an Improved Playback Experience

CDs, DVDs, and flash memory cards containing MPV playlists are recognized quickly by any MPV-compliant CE device, such as a DVD player. The consumer can organize and navigate through large collections of content easily, and the device can tell the user what content is designed to play on the device, and what content is incompatible with the device. Photos and videos can be combined with music in a presentation slideshow and displayed on a TV, providing a compelling user sharing experience.

Companies Enjoy Added Value at No Cost

PC and CE companies creating applications or playback devices will benefit from the free specification and developer tools. MPV takes up very little memory (typically 50K or less of compressed object code) on a CE device such as a digital camera or a digital audio player, and it is very easy for a developer to add MPV playlist functionality using developer kits, including one available as open source code.

MPV CE Playlist Specification, Validation Tools, and Logo License Program

The MPV CE Playlist specification is being developed by OSTA member companies. Software Architects, Inc., a Seattle-based software development company, is developing validation test tools and software developer kits to make it easy for manufacturers to create compliant products and ensure consistent and reliable playback on MPV-enabled products. Successful implementations that pass the validation tests may complete the Logo License process and have access to the MPV trademarks and logo. It is expected that the MPV CE Playlist Specification, validation test tools, and logo license program will be available later this year.

Leading Companies Announce MPV-enabled Products

HP, Samsung Electronics LTD, and Olympus Corporation have announced MPV-enabled products. Nikon Corporation has endorsed the adoption of MPV in future digital camera products to be released this year. HP ImageZone imaging and printing software –which is included in many HP Pavilion PCs and HP Photosmart imaging and printing devices – supports MPV and provides seamless integration for taking, viewing, editing, printing, and storing digital photos. Samsung recently announced their commitment to use MPV technology to improve the interoperability of many of their digital imaging and consumer electronics products. Samsung will demonstrate a prototype MPV-enabled DVD player in their booth at CES 2004. Also in the Samsung booth, Olympus will provide a prototype MPV-enabled digital camera to demonstrate MPV-based interoperability. Along with these companies, many other companies are in active development using the MPV specifications for a variety of multimedia applications.

MPV Adds Value to Digital Music Collections

At the December 2003 OSTA meetings, the board ratified adoption of the MPV Music Profile. MPV provides a standard playlist format for recognition and navigation through large collections of digital music content. MPV provides playlist functionality independent from music file formats, meaning MPV can be used by developers to support any music file format. The MPV Music Profile specification and press release can be found at <http://www.osta.org/mpv>.

About MPV

MPV is a specification for the management of digital music, photo, and video content. It is aimed at fast start-up, recognition, and navigation of large collections of digital media content. MPV plays a role in middleware for both the burning of discs and the playback device. When implemented, the consumer enjoys a superior playback experience. MPV works with any file system or operating system by adding an XML metadata file that is recognized by the playback device. Originally designed for CDs and DVDs, MPV is extensible technology which works well in other storage solutions, such as memory cards and hard disc drives, as well as networked consumer digital home environments. OSTA manages an open process under which MPV is developed and the specifications are available for free. For more information and a presentation on MPV, and access to the specifications, visit <http://www.osta.org/mpv>. MPV is a trademark of OSTA.

About the Optical Storage Technology Association (OSTA)

The Optical Storage Technology Association (OSTA) was incorporated as an international trade association in 1992 to promote the use of recordable optical technologies and products. The organization's membership includes optical product manufacturers and resellers from three continents, representing more than 85 percent of worldwide writable optical product shipments. They work to shape the future of the industry through regular meetings of DVD Compatibility, Commercial Storage Applications (CSA), Marketing, MultiRead, Planning and UDF committees. Interested companies worldwide are invited to join the organization and participate in its programs by contacting an OSTA representative at (408) 253-3695, by fax at (408) 253-9938, or by addressing its Web site at <http://www.osta.org>.

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