For Immediate Release

Wireless Power Consortium Achieves Key Technology Milestones for Fast Charging and Resonant Multi-Device Charging with Spatial Freedom

PISCATAWAY, N.J., February 12, 2015 – The Wireless Power Consortium (WPC), the driving force and leader in the global adoption of wireless power technology, today made two draft specifications available to its members that extend the capabilities of the Qi wireless power standard.

The first extension of the Qi specification, called “Volume II: Medium Power,” enables fast charging of smartphones with up to 15 Watts delivered into the battery.

“An increasing number of smartphones require higher power levels and support fast charging at more than 5 Watts,” said Matt Ronning chairman of the WPC’s Medium Power Work Group and Director of Engineering at Sony. “The Medium Power extension of the Qi specification increases the transferred power to 15 Watts and lays the ground work for a stepwise increase to higher power levels for smartphones, tablets and notebook computers.”

The second extension of the Qi specification, called “Volume III: Shared Mode,” enables multi-device charging with a single inverter, a resonant technology that reduces the cost of manufacturing multi-device chargers while providing large freedom of spatial positioning.

“Relentlessly driving down the cost of wireless chargers is necessary for mass adoption of wireless power,” said Tony Francesca chairman of the WPC’s Resonance Task Force and VP of Business Development, Consumer Technologies at PowerbyProxi. “The ‘Shared Mode’ extension of the Qi specification makes wireless chargers that power multiple smartphones and tablets simultaneously much more affordable while delivering a better user experience with improved spatial freedom in horizontal and vertical positioning.”

The availability of these draft specifications makes it possible for WPC members to begin developing products and components. The feedback from the product developers will be used to finalize these extensions and release them publicly as part of the Qi Wireless Power Specification.

Extensions to the Qi specifications are always compatible with existing Qi chargers and Qi devices. The WPC’s standards development process makes it easy to add new features, such as increasing the X, Y and Z transmission range, transmitting higher power, and enhancing the communications capability of wireless chargers while making sure that new Qi products work seamlessly with existing Qi products.

"These extensions provide WPC members and their customers with a seamless combination of inductive and resonant technologies,” said Menno Treffers, WPC’s Chairman. "Customers can choose between inductive and resonant Qi chargers and be sure that the chargers work seamlessly with all Qi devices.”
About the Wireless Power Consortium and Qi
Established in 2008, the Wireless Power Consortium is an open, collaborative standards development group of more than 200 company members. WPC’s members include Belkin, ConvenientPower, Delphi, Freescale, IKEA, Haier, HTC, LG, Microsoft, Motorola, Nokia, Panasonic, PowerbyProxi, Royal Philips, Samsung, Sony, TDK, Texas Instruments, Verizon Wireless and ZTE. These companies -- large and small competitors and ecosystem partners, from all parts of the industry and all parts of the globe -- collaborate for a single purpose: to design and evolve the world’s most useful, safe and efficient standard for wireless power.

This global standard is called Qi, and it has become the world’s leading method for transferring electrical power without wires. Qi is designed into 80+ mobile devices, 15 models of cars, has more than 700 registered products that are enjoyed by more than 50 million users worldwide. For more information, visit www.wirelesspowerconsortium.com.

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