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Ecma publishes ProxZzzy Standard for network connected sleep

Compliant devices to save energy while maintaining presence

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Ecma International published their ProxZzzy Standard for network connected sleep states in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) devices as ECMA-393 on their public website for unrestricted download. The Standard specifies responses to traffic so sleeping PC or ICT devices maintain network presence.

The ProxZzzy standard addresses a fundamental problem with today's PCs: when they go to sleep, they 'fall off' the network. This is a reason that many PCs are left on continuously, both in homes and offices. It is estimated that most computing energy consumption in the U.S. occurs when no one is present. The energy savings potential of a ProxZzzy enabled device is measured in billions of dollars per year for PCs, and grows even larger when application to game consoles, printers, set-top boxes and other digital devices is considered.

"*Intel feels this standard represents a significant opportunity to reduce the power consumption of ICT equipment, and enables the Network Proxy clause in EPA ENERGY STAR which will help further adoption of this spec,*" said **Wen-Hann Wang**, vice president and director of circuits and systems research, Intel Labs. "*This spec is a key part of Intel's continuous work to lower the power consumption of our products and reinforces our commitment to sustainability.*"

"*Microsoft is excited to work with the industry to help improve PC energy efficiency*", said **Sandeep Singhal**, head of networking in the Windows team. "*Our Windows 7 OS already has support for ECMA-393 built-in, so that network products that meet Windows 7 Hardware Quality Logo (WHQL) certification will automatically meet the Ecma network ProxZzzy standard, ECMA-393.*"

Lisa Harmeyer, product manager, HP Americas business desktops said "*HP is currently shipping AMD based Enterprise PCs that support the new ProxZzzy standard. HP strives to be first to market with energy savings technology or certifications (like ENERGY STAR), and works with our partners, such as AMD, Intel, Microsoft and others to ensure the support of high efficiency and industry standards.*"

"*Sony supported the development of the new ProxZzzy network standard and we are looking forward to implementing it in our products that will result in reduced energy consumption for our customers,*" said **Eric Jenkins**, software project manager for Sony Electronics' VAIO of America division.

As a result of implementing ProxZzzy functionality in PCs going forward, PCs should always be immediately available for use, but asleep whenever possible. Today's PCs do wake up quickly in response to ordinary user input, but are not comparably present and available on the network. ProxZzzy-enabled PCs will make sleeping machines just as responsive on the network as they are to users at the keyboard. Access over the network could be from another part of the house or office building, or from anywhere on the Internet. Those who routinely use the sleep state already built-in to their computers will also gain functionality from their computers' continuous network presence.

EPA congratulates the members of TG4 on the completion of the ProxZzzy standard. "*This standard, the product of public/private partnership, is a great example of the leadership IT companies can offer in developing energy saving solutions that deliver users a better experience and also help to fight climate change*", said **Katharine Kaplan**, Acting Branch Chief ENERGY STAR Products. EPA will use this standard in the ENERGY STAR Computers Version 5 specification to deliver even greater energy savings and will look to do the same across other relevant ENERGY STAR categories.

Ecma has forwarded the standard to the US Environmental Protection Agency so that products built to the standard will be designated as implementations of the network presence provision in the ENERGY STAR Computer Specification.

Experts from AMD, Apple, Hitachi, HP, Intel, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Lexmark, Microsoft, Oce, Realtek, Sony, Terra Novum and the University of South Florida collaboratively developed the ProxZzzy.

About Ecma International

Since its inception in 1961, Ecma International (Ecma) has developed standards for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Consumer Electronics (CE). Ecma is a non-profit industry association of technology developers, vendors and users. Experts from industry and other organizations work together at Ecma to develop standards. Ecma often submits its work for approval as ISO, IEC, ISO/IEC JTC 1 and ETSI standards and is a frequent practitioner of "fast-tracking" of specifications through the standardization process in international standards organizations. Download the ProxZzzy or any other publication free of charge from the Ecma International website www.ecma-international.org.

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