Walkthrough of the Certification Program

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Certification Program Objectives

- Deliver on the NFC brand promise of compliance to specifications and interoperability
- Build a process by which devices can be certified to comply with the Forum’s open standards
- Promote interoperability between:
  - Certified devices
  - Certified devices and other products such as tags, etc.

December 7, 2010
Launch
**Approach**

**Questions**

1. What does a device have to do in order to be certified?
2. What needs to be certified, how will it be certified, and how do we track devices through the process?
3. How and what will we test (or not test) for compliance to specifications and interoperability?

**Solutions**

- **Certification Policy** defines program rules and processes
- **Device Requirements** document defines minimum feature set
- **Conformance Testing** confirms compliance to specifications
- **Plugfests** help manufacturers test interoperability

http://www.nfc-forum.org/certification/
Conformance Testing

- Focus of December 7, 2010 Launch
  - “Self Confirm” that device complies with NFC Forum specifications, including but not limited to:
    - Digital Protocol
    - Activity
    - Tag Operation

- Submit Device for Certification Test
  - Conformance Test using NFC Forum-Approved test tool
Program Features

- Available only to NFC Forum members
- Administered by an independent, neutral third party
- Electronic, automated certification process
- Approved test tools
- Authorized test laboratories
- Problem and issue resolution process
- Escalation process
- Anonymity assured
- Option to list product on register of certified devices
Interoperability Testing

- NFC Forum supports “Plugfest” events
  - Scheduled multiple times throughout the year

- Not required at this point
  - Strongly recommended
  - Could become mandatory in the future

- Certification will not be denied based on the results of interoperability testing
Partners

Certification Administrator

Test Tool Provider

Test Tool Provider

Test Tool Validation House
Certification Program Timetable

1st Certification Wave
Digital Protocol Activity Tag Operation

2nd Certification Wave (Advanced Certification)
1st Wave plus:
LLCP (Peer-to-Peer) RF Analog

Plugfest
Plugfest
Plugfest
Plugfest
Plugfest
Plugfest

2009 2010 2011 2012
Final Comments

- As a developer who is interested in getting your product certified, your first step should be to join the NFC Forum

- Good next steps would include:
  - Review the Device Requirements Document
  - Review the NFC Forum Certification Policy Document
  - Participate in Testing WG activities regarding Test Cases and Test Application SW
  - Talk to Test Tool Vendors (i.e., provide sample, familiarize yourself with tools, etc.), and/or talk to Test Houses (see web site for list)
Thank you!

Questions?