

# THE VESA MONITOR

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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## ■ Ian Miller of Samsung Electronics Named VESA Chairman Board Reduced to Seven Members Beginning in May, Nominations Start March 1

In February, The VESA Board of Directors named Ian Miller of Samsung Information Systems as its new chairman, replacing Don Chambers. Miller will assume the leadership of the board until the May election of officers. The nomination period for candidates to fill the two open seats starts March 1.

"VESA has moved forward at an excellent, productive pace over the past year with several new areas of development started, I intend to help continue this strong progress," said Miller.

## ■ New VESA Committee to Establish Standards for New Panel Designs

Focus on electrical interfaces, mechanical outline specs that disrupt OEM supply –

The new VESA Panel Committee, formed in 2004 to develop mechanical and electrical interface, signal and related display module standards, is set for an active and productive year.

VESA initiated efforts in this area with a meeting of a Panels Special Interest Group that met in September 2003, with 19 companies taking part. Initial priorities included the following:

- Mechanical outline and mounting of 12.1-inch, 15.4-inch, and 17-inch panels for notebook PCs.
- Electrical interfaces for the same form factors.
- Mechanical outline for 19-inch monitor panels.
- RSDS electrical interface for 17-inch monitor panels.

The new Panel Committee quickly turned the work of the SIG into formal proposals. At February Panel Committee meeting, the committee voted to send the 12.1-, 12.1- wide, 15.4- wide and 17-inch wide proposals out for General Membership Review. The review period runs from February 18 through March 19. If the proposals are moved to membership Vote in March and approved by the members they could become VESA standards in April.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 9 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm at the VESA office in Milpitas. A teleconference to discuss comments received during GMR will be held on March 22 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm.

## ■ VESA Forms New TV Compatibility Workgroup

Computer display suppliers are now adding features to connect computer displays to consumer video sources. Consumer TV suppliers are also adding features to connect TVs to computer video sources.

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VESA has done an excellent job of defining and implementing a method that enables a video source to identify a computer display's physical and electrical characteristics. This method involves reading EDID over a DDC connection. The data contained within EDID allows the video source to configure and format its output video to best drive the display.

Consumer TV suppliers are now using this method through DVI. Furthermore, Consumer TV suppliers have defined a new consumer only product HDMI specification (based on a modified DVI interface) that adds audio and a smaller connector.

VESA intellectual property, EDID and DDC, has now been incorporated into consumer electronics standards. As the computer and consumer display supplier groups converge on a hybrid display product, additional display data previously not defined in VESA's EDID standard will need to be included.

The Television Workgroup was formed by VESA to address and support the new demands of these combined industries, and to control and maintain compatibility within this combined display interface.

## ■ VESA Member Program Debuts at Crowded 2004 CES

The annual Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas on January 7-10 was the biggest and busiest ever, with more than 2,300 company booths and almost 180,000 attendees from around the world. And VESA member companies were well represented, with a total of 29 booths sponsored and hosted by members

Each member company was identified by a VESA Member sign placed prominently in each booth. Members were so enthused about the opportunity to display the sign that they waived rules and regulations limiting or prohibiting non-company signage and displayed it prominently, according to Brian Eble, Marketing Committee Chair.

Approximately 12 companies that manufacture and market display mounts and related products met with Eble to discuss the VESA Mounting Compliance logo program. Each of the companies asked to be tested when the program is launched.

Peerless Industries, a maker of commercial mounts and accessories used the VESA logo and member company logo in all of their booth graphics and marketing materials. Most companies were enthused to see VESA represented at the show. For CES 2005, which organizers expect to be even bigger, the VESA Marketing Committee will consider sponsoring a small booth.



More than 20 VESA Member Company signs were displayed throughout CES by exhibiting VESA member companies.

## ■ New Software Special Interest Group to Develop Software Support for VESA Standards

The VESA Board of Directors has approved a new software Special Interest Group (SIG) to develop software support for VESA standards. The SIG was given a three-month timeframe to finish its work which will begin in March.

The new group is chartered to investigate the development of software utilities programs that help support, enhance and clarify VESA standards as well as improve their implementation, use, reliability and value. At the conclusion of the SIG's three-month timeframe, the SIG will present a proposal and budget to the Board for the continuation of its work.

The first regular SIG meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 9, from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm. A pre-meeting tele-conference was held Feb. 23.

## ■ VESA Launches New Web Site, Featuring New Identity

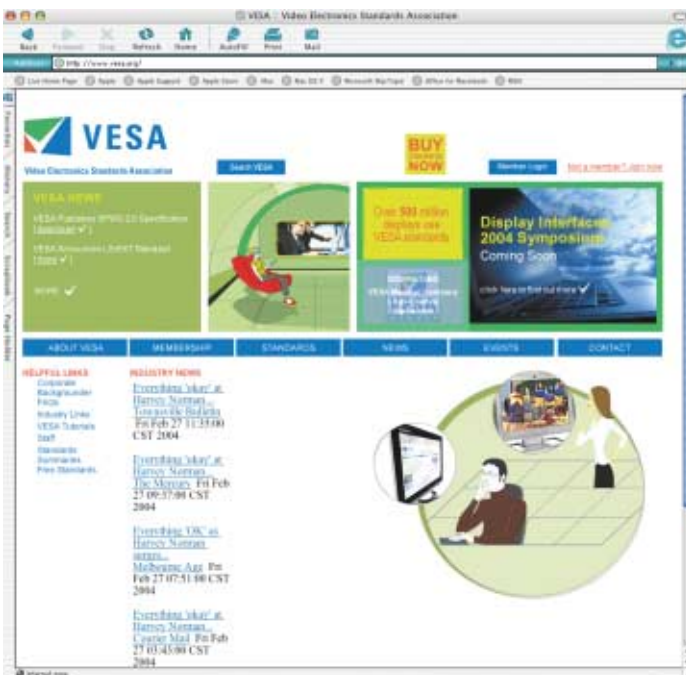
The new VESA web site features VESA's new graphic identity and a product section where all members can showcase their products.



It has been specifically designed to be easy to use, incorporating basic information sections that can be accessed with one click. These include 'About VESA,' 'Members,' 'Standards,' and 'News and Events.' Links are included so viewers can move directly to the most popular pages on the site.

The home page offers information and news to both members and non-members about VESA and the display industry. The new site also incorporates a new member section, which mirrors the public section in style and tone. Also included: new pages for each VESA committee.

The web site launch marks the first and second phases of a three-phase web site program. The final phase is the creation of a portal that will allow visitors to choose between a consumer site, an implementer's site and the member site, with the objective of making the site as efficient and easy to use as possible.



## ■ New VESA Web Site Set to Showcase Member Company Products

Each page on the site now features a VESA member company's product. All posted products will remain on the site for one month and will be rotated to pages throughout the VESA web site.

The new site also incorporates a new member section, which mirrors the public site in style, and includes new pages for each VESA committee.

For information on how to exhibit and what kind of specific product information to provide in what kind of display format, contact Brian Eble, chairman, Marketing Committee at beble@vesa.org.



## ■ Updates: Document Download Center Ready, IP Proposal Expected Soon

Recent months have seen major progress on new standards development, Board initiatives and VESA member programs. Here are the highlights:

- The redesigned Document Download Center is now up and running. It now incorporates the look and feel of the new VESA website. The overall organization of documents has changed so members can find documents quickly and easily
- The VESA Board of Directors is continuing its efforts to develop a new Intellectual Property proposal, with a final draft due in the next few weeks.
- The EDID VTB-EXT passed a full membership vote in November, and is now a VESA Standard. Any errors in the VTB-EXT examples included in the standard will be reviewed by the workgroup prior to official publication. "This is an excellent job, and the entire organization is grateful for the time and effort contributed by the workgroup that participated in the development of the VTB-EXT Standard," said Bill Lempesis, VESA executive director.

## Other Committee and Workgroup Updates:

- Display Metrology – the committee is continuing work on MPRT issues and the development of FPDM3.
- DPVL – General Membership Review ended on Friday February 13. The committee has responded to GMR comments and will forward the proposal to Board Process Review and Adoption Vote soon.
- Japan – most of the recent work has been focused on MPRT issues. The committee is still looking for a permanent chairperson. Minutes of meetings are on the VESA Download Center in both Japanese and English.
- TRC – the committee has been prioritizing and scheduling which documents it will be reviewing. The TRC will have a teleconference to discuss the current relevance of several standards and expects to make recommendations to the VESA Board at its March meeting. The TRC may also request changes to its charter to address other issues.
- Plug-n-Play - the workgroup reviewed draft 17 during February meeting week. Draft 18 was posted following the meeting and is available on the Download Center.
- NAVI – the NAVI proposal is close to going out for GMR. Draft 10 of the proposal is under development. The workgroup recently had discussions on the NAVI-P connector. Two types of connectors were discussed. One from Samsung and the other is a SCSI type recommended by Don Chambers. Responses to comments received during committee review are now posted on the Download Center.
- MDDI – the workgroup has responded to comments received during GMR. The MDDI proposal will likely go to GMR in March.
- DDC - At its February meeting, the Display Committee voted E-DDC to Board Process Review and Adoption Vote as Version 1.1. At the DDC/CI teleconference, the workgroup agreed on a new draft for committee review. Additional comments from Japan will be discussed before moving the proposal forward. The workgroup will ask for committee review in March.
- TVC - the TVC workgroup received approval from the Display Committee and the VESA Board to move forward on a whitepaper guideline. The target date for completion is July 2004. The VESA Board also approved sharing drafts with the Consumer Electronics Association's R4.8 WG7.



## ■ VESA Sets Annual Display Interface Conference (DI 2004) for September 2004

In September 2004, VESA will repeat its popular Display Interface Conference featuring global leaders in the expanding video display market. During the DI 2003, Dell, Hewlett-Packard, Samsung and other industry pacesetters presented their latest technology during a two-day conference that included 10 different speaking sessions and technology demonstration sessions. Additional details, including specific dates and the DI 2004 Conference location will be published soon. Please check the VESA website for updates.