



LAN eXtensions for Instrumentation

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For Immediate Release

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Class A and Class B Instruments Assume Prominence at the LXI Consortium 11th General Meeting and PlugFest

Niwot, Colorado – March 5, 2008 – [The LXI Consortium](#) hosted the largest General Meeting and PlugFest in its history in which it:

- Drew more LXI members than any other PlugFest
- Certified an array of new products, including the first to be certified under the newest version (V1.2) of the LXI Standard
- Grew LXI membership to 50 leading test and measurement companies.

“Perhaps the largest change that came out of this most recent PlugFest was the growing evolution of Class A and B instruments,” said Bob Rennard, president of the LXI Consortium. “The built-in advantages of this level of the LXI Standard truly provide powerful and compelling benefits to those building LXI systems. Coupled with the momentum in the adoption of LXI-compliant instruments as the standard for Ethernet in test and measurement, the value of LXI keeps increasing.”

Many of the newly certified instruments were Class A and B. [Class A and B instruments incorporate IEEE 1588 timing/synchronization protocols](#). More than 75 percent of the vendors demonstrating LXI applications were showcasing their Class A and B products.

Companies participating in the IEEE 1588 discussions included Hirschmann, Ixxatt, National Semiconductor, and Freescale. The LXI Consortium used this event to establish testing standards for IEEE 1588 V2 enabled LXI instruments, and to address potential interoperability issues introduced by the new IEEE 1588 protocol.

A key goal of each PlugFest is to verify that instruments marketed as LXI compliant are in compliance with key areas of the LXI Standard. An independent testing lab is hired and paid for by the

LXI consortium and offered as a free service to all LXI members. The table below lists the instruments that were certified at this PlugFest.

Manufacturer	Functionality	Class
Agilent	L4490A/L4491A RF Switch Platform	Class C
Agilent	7000 Series scopes (DSO7102A, DSO7104A, DSO7052A, DSO7054A, DSO7032A, DSO7034A, MSO7102A, MSO7104A, MSO7052A, MSO7054A, MSO7032A, MSO7034A)	Class C
Data Translation	TEMPpoint DT8871/DT8872 Temperature Measurement Device	Class C
Keithley	2820 Signal Analyzer	Class C
Keithley	2920 Signal Generator	Class C
Rohde & Schwarz	FSL18 Network Analyzer	Class C
Rohde & Schwarz	FSL18 Spectrum Analyzer	Class C

The PlugFest also conducted interoperability tests on 16 instruments using five different software packages. This included assembling and testing a network of instruments using standard networking components. The Interoperability testing places products in real-world scenarios that demonstrate how the discovery setup protocols enable a system to be assembled from disparate components and still deliver the speed, simplicity, and power for which LXI-certified instruments are known.

Introduced in 2005, the LXI Standard has been rapidly adopted by 50 companies, representing a who's who of the test-and-measurement industry. They recognize LXI as the natural evolution of the test and measurement instrument interface, making it easier for test system designers and integrators to create faster, more efficient systems. To date, more than 480 products have been certified as being compliant with the LXI Standard and annual sales of LXI-equipped test and measurement equipment now exceed \$200 million (US).

About LXI and the LXI Consortium

The LXI Standard creates new capabilities that optimize test throughput, overall system performance, and cost efficiency in a way that allows engineers to build powerful, web-enabled test systems in less time. The LXI Consortium, a not-for-profit corporation comprised of leading test and measurement companies, manages the Standard. The group's goals are to develop, support and promote the LXI standard. LXI's flexible packaging, high-speed I/O, and standardized use of LAN connectivity address a broad range of commercial, industrial, aerospace, and military applications.

Additional information about LXI-compliant products as well as licensing, specifications, and consortium membership is available at www.lxistandard.org.

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