

What is a Software Defined Radio?

SDR combines hardware and software that enables reconfigurable system architectures for a wide range of wireless networks and user terminals. It provides an efficient and comparatively inexpensive solution to building multimode, multi-band, multifunctional wireless devices that can be easily adapted, updated, or enhanced using software upgrades. Radios built using SDR concepts allow:

- Standard, open, and flexible architectures for a wide range of communications products.
- Enhanced wireless roaming for consumers by extending the capabilities of current and emerging commercial air-interface standards.
- Over-the-air downloads of new features and services as well as software patches.
- Advanced networking capabilities to allow truly portable networks.
- Unified communication across commercial, civil, federal and military organizations.
- Significant life cycle cost reductions.

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The Software Defined Radio Forum

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The SDR Forum is an international industry association dedicated to supporting the development and deployment of software defined radio systems. Presently numbering over 100 organizations, the Forum's membership spans commercial, defense and civil government organizations. Among these are wireless service providers, network operators, public safety agencies, component and equipment manufacturers, hardware and software developers, regulatory agencies, and academia from Asia, Europe and North America.

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*Accelerating the proliferation of
software defined radio technologies*

About the Forum

An International Venue to Share and Learn

The SDR Forum provides a venue where technologists can learn about new products, applications and technologies. Meetings are held five times a year in major global regions and typically involve focused plenary sessions to address the Forum's business aspects, work management, and document approvals. Industry leaders and key analysts are invited to speak on SDR-related topics. E-mail reflectors and conference calls throughout the year afford all members the opportunity to fully participate in working group activities. Work contributions are solicited from both members and nonmembers.

Annual Technical Conference and Product Exposition

The SDR Forum hosts a yearly international technical conference and product exposition on technologies, standards, and business activities related to software radios. This is also the venue for the SDR Forum awards program, which highlights outstanding achievements and contributions in the development of SDR technologies.

All SDR-related organizations are welcome, as are analysts, media and regulatory agencies.

Contributions Welcome

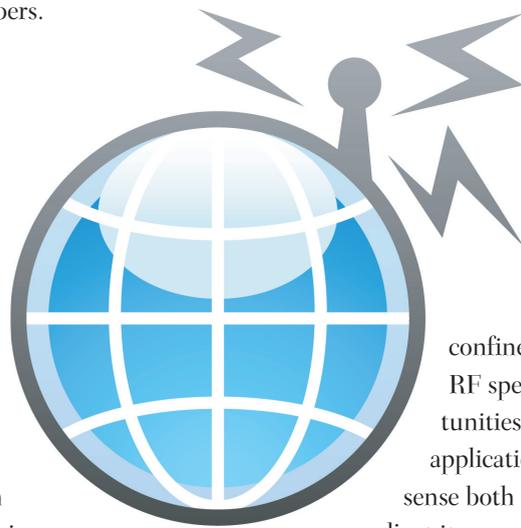
Forum members actively contribute to many relevant industry organizations currently developing wireless technologies. They also speak in conferences, workshops, and seminars external to the Forum. And they author articles for industry publications on technical, business and regulatory issues.

External Affairs Initiatives, Seminars and Market/Industry Surveys

The SDR Forum works closely with regulatory agencies and standards development organizations worldwide on the rules, regulations, and standards of SDR technologies and applications. In this effort, the Forum reports on such major SDR issues as security and authentication. It also periodically schedules seminars and workshops for policy makers on a variety of SDR topics. Finally, the Forum initiates and/or participates in a variety of market/industry reports that not only address key issues but gauge the progress of SDR technologies.

Coming Soon...Cognitive Radio

Cognitive radio is an extension of software defined radio. This exciting new technology could open up the restraints that have confined us to an increasingly crowded RF spectrum—creating vast new opportunities for radio designers and wireless application developers. Cognitive radio can sense both its environment and location, then adjust its power output, transmission frequency, modulation and other parameters to reuse spectrum areas it needs. Through the use of adaptive software, a cognitive radio can become aware of its environment, then uses what it has just learned to reconfigure its communications functions to meet the new demands of a transmission network or user.



Student Engineering Teams Compete in

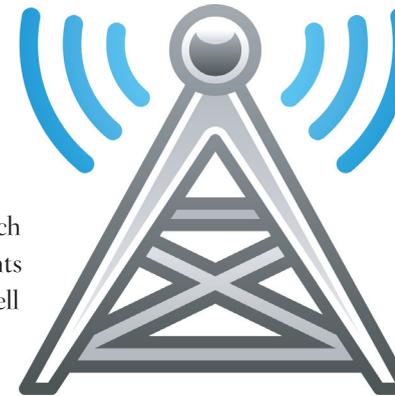
Smart Radio Challenge

To Develop and Test Software Defined or Cognitive Radio

Smart Radio Challenge is a worldwide competition in which student engineering teams design, develop and test a software defined or cognitive radio. Open to all academic institutions interested in SDR and cognitive radio, the Challenge invites student teams to submit proposals specific to a Forum-defined problem. Those who qualify have 10 months to complete and submit their projects.

After a development phase, the SDR Forum awards several prizes, and qualified teams may compete in successive years for annual prizes, which include monetary grants to student teams as well as their university departments. Long active in educational endeavors, the SDR Forum's academic members include universities in Finland, Germany, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Spain and U.S.

More details can be found at www.radiochallenge.org.



www.sdrforum.org



Membership Has Its Benefits

Representatives to the SDR Forum are decision makers, planners, policy makers, technologists, suppliers/manufacturers, educators, and program/product managers. Employees of Forum member organizations enjoy a wide range of benefits, including:

- Access to key technical documents, industry reports, and market surveys.
- Influence in the development of SDR technologies.
- Input into Forum-sponsored reports submitted to regulators on the state of SDR technologies.
- Weekly reports on new developments in the technology and in regulatory activity.
- Participation in committees and workgroups to develop requirements and specifications, support regulatory frameworks, and market SDR technologies.
- Gain earlier insight to emerging technologies.
- Opportunities for networking and collaboration.

Want To Know More, Get Involved?

For more information or to become a member of the SDR Forum, visit the Forum's website: www.sdrforum.org.

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