WiMAX 2 Collaboration Initiative (WCI)
Frequently Asked Questions
As of April 2010

WiMAX 2 and WiMAX 2 Collaboration Initiative

1. **What is the WiMAX 2 Collaboration Initiative (WCI)?**
   The WCI is an initiative lead by leading WiMAX™ silicon suppliers, equipment makers and research organizations to accelerate interoperability of WiMAX 2 based on the IEEE 802.16m standard. The group will work hand-in-hand with the WiMAX Forum® to bring the 802.16m ecosystem to market faster, meeting the growing network demands of service providers.

2. **What companies are part of this collaboration?**
   Leading WiMAX vendors Alvarion, Beceem, GCT Semiconductor, Intel, Motorola, Samsung, Sequans, XRONet and ZTE as well as the Taiwanese research organization, Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI), are all working closely with the WiMAX Forum to accelerate the implementation of interoperable system profiles for WiMAX 2 equipment and devices with the goal of improving the economics of mobile broadband. Together, the group provides solutions to more than 100 Mobile WiMAX operators worldwide.

3. **What is WiMAX 2?**
   WiMAX 2 is the next phase of WiMAX technology based upon the IEEE 802.16m standard, which builds upon 802.16e by adding new capabilities while maintaining backward compatibility. WiMAX 2 delivers higher system capacity with peak rates of more than 300 Mbps, lower latency and increased VoIP capacity, meeting the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) requirements for 4G or "IMT-Advanced."

4. **What are the objectives of the WCI?**
   The WCI understands that as the 4G industry takes shape, it is imperative to evolve the industry model to create a better value chain for service providers. By working closely together and with the WiMAX Forum, the group plans to accomplish:
   - Technology collaboration and joint performance benchmarking
     - Joint development of "lightweight" 802.16m product profiles so we can perform early, basic functionality IOT testing
     - Collaboration and planning of early 802.16m multi-vendor demonstrations
     - Joint development of smooth migration paths for existing 802.16e customers
   - Joint testing of 4G applications over WiMAX 2 systems
     - Building Proof of Concept (PoC) test beds for various 4G applications
   - Early network level interoperability testing
     - End-to-end testing including both Air and Network functionalities, for example, to provide assurance to customers on WiMAX certificates
   - Plugfests to prepare for WiMAX Forum Release 2 certification
     - Joint efforts to establish labs for early plugfests and validation
     - Collaboration with test equipments vendors to accelerate their development of 802.16m test equipment for timely elivery of Release 2 certificates to the industry.

5. **What is the expected timeline of the WiMAX 2 rollout?**
   The WCI will issue detailed milestones and delivery schedules within the next 3-6 months with the goal to support the WiMAX Forum's readiness to certify commercial products by late 2011. The 802.16m air interface standard is expected to be completed in the second half of 2010.

6. **Doesn't the WiMAX Forum drive interoperability for 802.16? Why is this group getting together to do it?**
   Early IOT involves very close, one-on-one coordination and significant engineering face time between companies. Thus, we can accelerate IOT by working amongst a small group of committed vendors. This group also represents some of the most active members in the WiMAX Forum, so there's no question as to our commitment to ultimately move any of our results into the Forum.

7. Where is WiMAX deployed?

As of February 2010, WiMAX Forum has tracking 559 network deployments in 147 countries. Please visit WiMAX Maps at www.wimaxmaps.org. WiMAX Maps is an interactive WiMAX deployment mapping database provided by WiMAX Forum and powered by Informa Telecoms & Media's World Cellular Information Service (WCIS) using the familiar Google Maps API.

REGION	DEPLOYMENTS	COUNTRIES
Africa	114	43
CALA	110	32
Asia-Pacific	102	22
Eastern Europe	84	21
Western Europe	70	17
North America (USA/Canada)	51	2
Middle East	28	10