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COMPACTFLASH ASSOCIATION APPROVES SECURE COMPACTFLASH

CPRM accepted by CFA as a Secure CompactFlash Key Management System

Palo Alto, CA, May 31, 2001 - The CompactFlash Association, holding its general meeting at Kauai, HI on May 23, 2001, approved the Secure CompactFlash proposal developed by the CFA Secure CF Work Group. This proposal adds optional content protection capability to the CompactFlash Specification.

In addition, 4C's CPRM (Content Protection for Recordable Media) was accepted as the first Key Management System suitable for Secure CompactFlash cards. The Secure CompactFlash specification allows for 16 or more different content protection methods. The CFA will review and consider accepting other proposals in the future.

Secure CF cards are optional and are completely backward compatible with existing CompactFlash cards. Secure CF can be implemented on any type of CF data storage card, whether it is a CompactFlash card or a Microdrive. Secure CF cards will allow CPRM content protected files to be used by compliant host systems, but will not affect the storage and copying of any type of file on Secure CF cards.

CompactFlash card slots are in MORE (over 135) digital cameras, MORE (over 65) handheld/palm-size PCs and MORE (over 75) other electronic platforms including heart monitors, defibrillators, printers, MP3 players, voice recorders, etc. than any other small form factor card.

CompactFlash cards have MORE compatibility and have MORE interchangeable than any other small form factor card.

CompactFlash and CF cards have MORE data storage capacity. CompactFlash card capacities have reached 512MB. IBM's CF+ Microdrive has a capacity of 1GB.

CF I/O cards provide MORE communications capability. Ethernet, modem, serial, parallel, SCSI, digital phone, Bluetooth and Ethernet wireless cards are all available.

CF cards do MORE, with wand and laser barcode readers and GPS cards available.

CompactFlash and CF cards have MORE companies manufacturing them than any other small form factor card.

The CF and CompactFlash Specification ensures that systems manufactured today and tomorrow will be compatible with even higher capacity CF cards, as they become available. The CFA has a certification program that ensures the compliance of all CompactFlash cards with the CompactFlash Specification. Products that have passed the certification program carry the CF™ logo. Compatibility and interchangeability of all CompactFlash products have been major

advantages for CompactFlash. CompactFlash is the only small form factor data storage card that provides product compatibility certification ensuring users that the CompactFlash cards they buy today and in the future are all interchangeable and compatible.

The CompactFlash storage card is an ultra-small, removable data storage system first introduced in 1994. CompactFlash cards meet the PCMCIA ATA standard.

A CompactFlash card can be easily removed from a camera, handheld PC, Palm-size PC, AutoPC or other host system and slipped into a low cost, high transfer rate, reader/writer to move files instantaneously to and from a desktop PC. Files can be transferred to and from a notebook computer in the same way or a low cost adapter is available to allow a CF card to be inserted directly into a PCMCIA card slot.

CompactFlash cards are compatible with Windows95, Windows98, Windows 2000, WindowsME, WindowsCE, and many other operating systems. For example, Windows automatically recognizes a CF card as an additional disk drive and assigns a drive letter to the card. All files on the CF card are then easily accessible by any application or utility software.

The CFA was founded by twelve companies in October 1995 and now has over 205 member companies. The CompactFlash Association is a non-profit, mutual-benefit corporation that promotes adoption of CompactFlash as a worldwide, ultra-small, removable data storage card standard for capturing and transporting digital data, audio and images.

The latest CompactFlash and CF+ Specification Version 1.4 incorporates I/O functions (Bluetooth, fax/modem, Ethernet, serial, SCSI, bar code reader, etc.) into the CF form factor.

The CFA, which makes the CompactFlash, CFA logo and CF logo trademarks available royalty-free to member companies, is headquartered in Palo Alto, CA.

The CF Specification is available to download free from the CFA web site at <http://www.compactflash.org>

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CF logo for CompactFlash compatibility certification

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