

PEAK Class 101:

Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR unveiled



Bluetooth is the most popular short-distance wireless technology in use today. As we know, the development of next-generation Bluetooth devices which combine Bluetooth with Ultra-wideband (UWB) is already in progress. However, Bluetooth technology is still constantly improving. At CTIA Wireless 2007, the **Bluetooth Special Interest Group** (SIG) officially unveiled its **2.1 + EDR** standard, offering a number of significant enhancements. The new standard reduces the frustration factor commonly associated with device pairing with **Near Field Communication** (NFC) technology. Security is also improved. As well as these significant improvements, power consumption is reduced by 80% with **Sniff Subrating** technology.

Near Field Communication (NFC) is an RFID technology. It applies to applications that need a 1km to 2km connection range. With NFC, just with one simple click, Bluetooth devices are paired without the password but without compromising security.

Sniff Subrating provides Bluetooth chipsets with the ability to consume less power by increasing the checking period between devices. In general, after two Bluetooth devices are paired, they will constantly check each other. This means that even when the devices are not in use, the Bluetooth circuits are constantly drawing power. To solve this problem, in **Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR**, the checking interval is extended from 1ms to 5ms which gives more time for the chipset to rest, reducing power consumption.

Even though the **Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR** standard has just been unveiled in March 2007, many chipset companies already support this technology. PEAK will introduce **Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR** products in the near future.



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