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DLNA Introduction

What is DLNA?

DLNA (Digital Living Network Alliance)

Purpose:

 DLNA is a standard used by manufacturers of consumer electronics, mobile device and personal computer to allow entertainment devices within the home to share their content with each other across a home network.

DLNA Introduction

Evolution:

- DLNA was formed in 2003 by 21 companies including Microsoft, Intel, HP, IBM, Sony, Philips, Toshiba, Pioneer, Motorola and Nokia.
- It currently has more than 200 members, including virtually all of the global brands in PC,CE and mobile electronics.
- The latest version of the DLNA Interoperability Guidelines, version 1.5, was published in March 2006 and then expanded in October 2006.

- The device model used by DLNA is derived from the UPnP Forum fundamental device model.
- UPnP model consists of:
 - Devices are network entities that provide services. An example would be a VCR player.
 - Services are the basic unit of control. They provide actions, and maintain status. An example would be VCR device which provides tape transport service, a tuner service, and a timing service.
 - Control Points are network entities that are capable of discovering and controlling other devices on the network.

- With the development of DLNA the basic device model was extended so that Devices themselves interact with each other to pass digital data.
- Previously ,Control Point may be managing multiple devices, all interactions occur only between the Control Point and the individual device.
- Now, The Control Point configures the Devices as needed, initiates the flow of content, and gets out of the way.

 In order to better define the characteristics of devices and the services they offer, the DLNA Interoperability Guidelines define twelve Device Classes organized into three Device Categories.



The **Home Network Device (HND)** category is made up of five Device Classes that are in use in the home network, and rely on the same media formats and network connectivity requirements.

- Digital Media Server (DMS): Acquires, records, stores, and makes available digital media content, as well as enforcing content protection requirements. E.g.: Advanced Set-top Boxes
- Digital Media Player (DMP): Finds content offered by a DMS and provides playback and rendering capabilities. E.g.: Digital TVs

- Digital Media Renderer (DMR): Similar to DMPs in that they render or play content they receive from a DMS. Unlike DMPs, they are unable to find content on the network, and must be setup by another network entity, a DMC.
- Digital Media Controller (DMC): Finds content offered by a DMS and matches it to the rendering capabilities of a DMR, setting up the connections between the DMS and DMR. E.g. a personal digital assistant or multimedia mobile phone.
- Digital Media Printer (DMPr): Provides printing services to the DLNA home network. E.g. networked photo printer.

- The Mobile Handheld Device (MHD) category is made up of five Device Classes that share the same usages models as the HND Device Category, but have different requirements for media format and network connectivity.
 - Mobile Digital Media Server (M-DMS): Offers and distributes content. A mobile phone and a portable. music player are examples
 - Mobile Digital Media Player (M-DMP): Finds content offered by a M-DMS and plays the content locally on the M-DMP. A media tablet designed for viewing multimedia content is an example of a M-DMP device.

- Mobile Digital Media Controller (M-DMC): Finds content
 offered by an M-DMS and match it to the rendering capabilities of
 a DMR, setting up the connections between the server and
 renderer. A personal digital assistant and an intelligent remote
 control are examples of M-DMC devices.
- Mobile Digital Media Uploader (M-DMU): Sends content to an M-DMS with upload functionality. A digital camera and a camera phone are examples of M-DMU devices.
- Mobile Digital Media Downloader (M-DMD): Finds and downloads content exposed by an M-DMS and plays the content locally on the M-DMD after download. A portable music player is an example of a M-DMD device.

- The Home Infrastructure Device (HID) category is made up of two Device Classes. These devices are intended to allow HNDs and MHDs to interoperate.
 - Mobile Network Connectivity Function (M-NCF): devices provide a bridging function between the MHD network connectivity and the HND network connectivity.
 - Media Interoperability Unit (MIU):devices provide content transformation between required media formats for the HND Device Category and the MHD Device Category.

Media formats

Content discovery and control

Device discovery

Media transport

Network stack

Network connection

DLNA classification

JPEG, LPCM, MPEG2, MP3, MPEG4, AAC LC, AVC, etc

UPnP AV 1.0

UPnP Device Architecture (Auto-IP/DHCP, SSDP)

HTTP

Wired: 802.3i, 802.3u

IPv4

Standard technology

Wireless: 802.11a/b/g

Layer 7: Application layer

Layer 6: Presentation layer

Layer 5: Session layer

Layer 4: Transport layer

Layer 3: Network layer

Layer 2: Data link layer

Layer 1: Physical layer

OSI reference model

Media Formats.

Media Formats describe how digital content is encoded and formatted for image, audio, and AV.

Media Class	Mandatory Formats	Optional Formats
Image	JPEG	PNG, GIF, TIFF
Audio	LPCM	AC3, AAC, MP3, WMA9, ATRAC3plus
Video	MPEG2	MPEG1, MPEG4, VC1, MPV1

Media Transport

Media Transport defines how content moves across the network.

Mandatory Transport	Optional Transport
HTTP1.1	RTP

Media Management

Media management enables devices and applications to identify, manage, and distribute digital media content across network devices.

Mandatory Management	Optional Management
UPnP Forum AV	None

Network Stack

- The basis for UPnP Networking (and thus DLNA) is the TCP/IP v4 protocol.
- UPnP makes extensive use of both the UDP and TCP protocols.
- Discovery is done via an HTTP Multicast over UDP.
- Definition, control, and eventing services are delivered via HTTP over TCP
- Every device must implement a DHCP client, and search for a DHCP server when first connected to the network. If a DHCP server is discovered, the device must use the IP address assigned by the server. If no DHCP server is discovered, the device must use Auto-IP to generate a link-local IP address.

Network connectivity

Three network connection technologies are incorporated in the DLNA 1.5 Interoperability Guidelines:

- 10Base-T and 100Base-T Ethernet(802.3i / 802.3u) for wired connections.
- WiFi (802.11a /802.11b/802.11g) for wireless connections.
- Bluetooth for wireless connections for mobile handheld devices such as cell phones and PDAs.

Additional network connections such as 1000Base-T Ethernet (802.3ab) and faster WiFi (802.11n) will be added to the Guidelines in the future.

DLNA Certification

The initial step in gaining certification is

- The vendor device should successfully pass the DLNA's Conformance Test Tool (CTT) test.
- Then schedule a test session with one of the Independent Certification Vendors (ICV) approved by DLNA.
- The ICV will test the submitted product per DLNA's Certification Test Plan (CTP) against 3 reference devices of the appropriate device class.

Note: The CTT is a suite of tests that are run by the vendor against the product, and validate the devices' compliance with DLNA standards.