

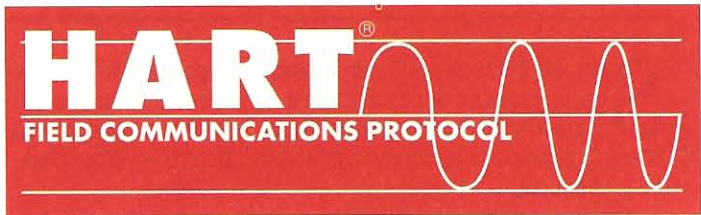


HCF Issues Draft Specs for WirelessHART

The HART Communication Foundation (HCF, www.hartcomm2.org) completed draft specifications for the *WirelessHART* Communication protocol and released them to HCF member companies for review and approval. *WirelessHART* is the first open and interoperable wireless communication standard designed to address the critical needs of the process industry for reliable, robust, and secure wireless communication in real-world industrial plant applications, according to HCF.

"The combination of HART plus wireless is a major step for the industry. *WirelessHART* provides new capabilities for users to get information on process parameters and to monitor the performance of plant assets in areas that have previously been technically or cost-effectively difficult to achieve," said Ron Helson, HCF executive director, in a prepared statement. "*WirelessHART* ushers in the next major technology life cycle and makes possible the next generation of HART-enabled productivity solutions."

WirelessHART is backwards compatible with previous HART protocols and is designed to complement, not replace, wired HART. The *WirelessHART* specifications support the entire range of HART-enabled measurement, control, and automation systems products. Approved specifications will be available late summer with products expected in early 2008, according to HCF.



WirelessHART is designed to:

- facilitate easy installation and deployment of measurement and control devices in applications where traditional wired solutions were cost prohibitive;
- eliminate the "wire" restriction for monitoring the performance of critical assets;
- provides a new connection path to the advanced features and diagnostics in HART-enabled devices – new or existing;
- incorporate powerful security features to ensure network integrity and meet the demands of process industry applications;
- preserve and protect the global installed investment of 20-million-plus HART-enabled devices.

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