

# Press Release

Erlangen/Barcelona  
February 22, 2012

## Fraunhofer IIS Premieres Extended HE-AAC at Mobile World Congress 2012

The new member of the AAC audio codec family enables improved speech and music audio quality at low bit rates.

Fraunhofer IIS, the world's renowned source for audio and multimedia technologies, will premiere Extended HE-AAC, the latest upgrade to the MPEG AAC family. Extended HE-AAC significantly improves the audio quality of music and speech particularly at very low bit rates of 8 kbit/s and more, and is compatible with HE-AAC streams.

Extended HE-AAC combines the advantages of existing speech and music codecs. By adding a new set of encoding tools to the HE-AACv2 audio codec, Extended HE-AAC outperforms dedicated speech and general audio coding schemes and bridges the gap between both worlds, providing consistent high quality audio for all signal types. As a result, Extended HE-AAC can improve the quality of existing low bit rate services or more audio channels can be transmitted at a given bit rate.

ISO MPEG initiated this standardization activity in 2008, when a call for proposals on unified speech and audio coding technology was issued. In the following years, Fraunhofer IIS was one of the leading drivers of the standardization process. The new AAC generation is now presented for the first time by Fraunhofer IIS at Mobile World Congress.

Visit us at  
**Mobile World Congress, Barcelona**  
**February 27 – March 1, 2012**  
**Hall 2.0, Booth 2E41**

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\* Fraunhofer USA Digital Media Technologies, a division of Fraunhofer USA, Inc., promotes and supports the products of Fraunhofer IIS in the U.S.

For more information, visit <http://www.iis.fraunhofer.de/amm>

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## About Fraunhofer

The Fraunhofer IIS Audio and Multimedia division, based in Erlangen, Germany, has been working in compressed audio technology for more than 20 years and remains a leading innovator of technologies for cutting-edge multimedia systems. Fraunhofer IIS is universally credited with the development of mp3 and co-development of AAC (Advanced Audio Coding) as well as technologies for the media world of tomorrow, including MPEG Surround and the Fraunhofer Audio Communication Engine.

Through the course of more than two decades, Fraunhofer IIS has licensed its audio codec software and application-specific customizations to at least 1,000 companies. Fraunhofer estimates that it has enabled more than 1 billion commercial products worldwide using its mp3, AAC and other media technologies.

The Fraunhofer IIS organization is part of Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, based in Munich, Germany. Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft is Europe's largest applied research organization and is partly funded by the German government. With 19,000 employees worldwide, Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft is composed of 60 Institutes conducting research in a broad range of research areas. For more information, contact Matthias Rose, [matthias.rose@iis.fraunhofer.de](mailto:matthias.rose@iis.fraunhofer.de), or visit [www.iis.fraunhofer.de/amm](http://www.iis.fraunhofer.de/amm).

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