

**RW Products Promotion Initiative (RWPPI) and Recordable DVD Council (RDVDC)
Carry out Joint, Round Robin Compatibility Test**

The RW Products Promotion Initiative (known as the RWPPI, and led by its Representative Director, Koki Aizawa) and the Recordable DVD Council (known as the RDVDC, and led by its Chairman, Bon-Guk Koo) have been jointly carrying out compatibility tests for recordable DVD products including 4X speed DVD-R, 2X speed DVD-RW and 3X speed DVD-RAM. The tests have been carried out since September 2003, and results are scheduled to be announced March 2004.

These compatibility tests, in which almost all the major manufacturers in the world involved in recordable DVD products (hardware, DVD disc making, PC application software and others) are participating, is expected to positively contribute to the future development of the entire DVD market by enhancing recording and playback compatibility among the products they make.

The compatibility tests have been conducted with the participation of member companies from both the RWPPI Round Robin Test and the RDVDC Compatibility Working Group. The factors to be tested and the schedule for the testing are discussed and implemented through general meetings and individual meetings. Recording and playback compatibility tests, including the examination of evaluation methods, evaluation of physical characteristics and logical characteristics, and confirmation of playback compatibility, have been carried out for all combinations of products of every participating manufacturer. (Note the joint compatibility test schedule attached.)

“To participate in the joint compatibility tests is very important for disc manufacturers because it will ensure stable product quality in the market by confirming compatibility among the products of the major hardware manufacturers in the world,” said Mr. Hideo Kobayashi, Senior Manager, Patent Engineering Group, TDK Corporation.

“The whole DVD industry will benefit greatly from the fact that recording and playback compatibility can be examined in these tests using the hardware from major manufacturers in the industry,” said Mr. Nobuyasu Kikuchi, Electrical Manager, Sony Corporation. “In particular, we hardware manufacturers can confirm the compatibility of a product during the development process before releasing it into the market.”

“It is extremely useful for our product development that compatibility can be examined in a very effective manner because there are so many kinds of hardware and media,” said Mr. Nobuhiro Tokushuku, Chief Specialist, Development Division, Hitachi-LG Data Storage, Inc. “It would be quite impossible for a company to do this on its own. This is the major benefit of the joint compatibility tests.”

The RWPPI and RDVDC plan to continue with these joint compatibility tests and improve compatibility of even higher speed media of the DVD-R, DVD-RW, and DVD-RAM recordable DVD formats that are anticipated in the future.

- RW Products Promotion Initiative (RWPPPI) <<http://www.rwppi.com/>>

The RWPPPI aims at the effective popularization and promotion of related products based on DVD-R and DVD-RW standards that allow recording and playback of DVD discs. The organization strives to achieve high levels of customer satisfaction by proposing a range of standard specifications and ensuring hardware/software compatibility related to DVD-R and DVD-RW products.

- Recordable DVD Council (RDVDC) <<http://www.rdvdc.org>>

The RDVDC was established in April 2001 with the aim of popularizing and promoting recordable DVD products which comply with the recordable DVD standards (DVD-RAM, DVD-R, DVD-RW) specified by the DVD Forum. Its activities include information exchange among member companies, compatibility promotion activities, and cooperative product promotion at exhibitions.

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Attached document

<Example of the Joint Round Robin Compatibility Test schedule for DVD recorders/players/PCs under

