M-Enabling Summit

Promoting Accessible Technologies and Environments

http://www.ejkrause.com

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NEW INTERNATIONAL STANDARD FOR INDOOR AUDIO NAVIGATION TO BE UNVEILED AT THE M-ENABLING SUMMIT

BETHESDA, MD (March 31, 2017) – The organizers of the **M-Enabling Summit** are pleased to announce that the new Wayfindr indoor audio navigation Open Standard will be featured during its 2017 event.

The Wayfindr system, which empowers vision-impaired people to navigate the world, is the first Open Standard for indoor audio navigation and has just been adopted globally by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), which includes 193 member countries.

An example of implementation throughout the venue of the Summit will be provided by RightHear, an advanced accessibility solution that allows its users to hear where they are, what is there and even what's around them just by pointing with their smartphone in different directions.

M-Enabling is proud to be the first conference in the United States to install this solution and by doing that, accessing the event for people with orientation challenges and vision loss.

The international indoor navigation market is set to grow exponentially in the next few years, to the benefit of millions of people. By using the Wayfindr Open Standard from the inception of indoor navigation design and implementation, organizations will be able to deliver a consistent, predictable experience to all customers. The adoption of indoor audio navigation will be of particular help to the 285 million vision impaired persons, whose lives are dramatically improved when able to navigate independently through indoor environments.

Axel Leblois, President of G3ict and co-chair of the M-Enabling Program Committee stated: *"The emergence of an Open Standard will be a tremendous help in accelerating the universal adoption of indoor audio navigation as a mainstream feature of buildings and public transportation infrastructures."*

Wayfindr is the first Open Standard for indoor audio navigation in the world, issued on March 1, 2017 as ITU's Recommendation ITU-T F.921. It reflects best practices in the design of interoperable, inclusive audio navigation systems for persons with vision impairment or living with other forms of disabilities, which ultimately, can also benefit anyone seeking help for orientation or information on their immediate environment.

Dr. Tom Pey, Chief Executive of the Royal London Society for Blind People, which initiated the Wayfindr standard project, said: *"We look forward to participating in the M-Enabling Summit to meet colleagues from the United States and other countries interested in cooperating in further developing the Wayfindr Open Standard."*

Conference sessions at the **M-Enabling Summit** will provide the opportunity for interested advocacy organizations, architects, urbanists, IT developers and administrations to explore ways to implement the Open Standard within built environments, transportation or applications.

The 6th edition of the **M-Enabling Summit** will be held on June 13-14, 2017 at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel, in Washington, D.C., with an IAAP Pre-Conference Session on global compliance trends and latest web accessibility technology developments kicking-off the event on June 12, 2017.

For more information on registering for the M-Enabling Summit, please visit http://www.m-enabling.com

To view the agenda click here: http://www.m-enabling.com/agenda.html

About E.J. Krause & Associates:

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About G3ict:

G3ict – the Global Initiative for Inclusive Information and Communication Technologies – is an advocacy initiative launched in December 2006 in cooperation with the Secretariat for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at UNDESA. Its mission is to facilitate and support the implementation of the dispositions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) promoting digital accessibility and Assistive Technologies. Participating organizations include industry, academia, the public sector and organizations representing persons with disabilities. For more information, please visit www.g3ict.org