

## Why are Standards Needed and How are they Created

Neil Trevett, Khronos President <a href="mailto:ntrevett@nvidia.com">ntrevett@nvidia.com</a> @neilt3d

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## **Topics**

- 1. Paths to interoperability: open standards and open source
  - 2. Principles behind making successful open standards
    - 3. Open standards lifecycle
  - 4. Building industry cooperation around open standards

## 

### Khronos Connects Software to Silicon





Open, royalty-free interoperability standards to harness the power of GPUs, multiprocessors and XR hardware

3D graphics, augmented and virtual reality, parallel programming, inferencing and vision acceleration

Non-profit, member-driven standards organization, open to any company

Well-defined multi-company governance and IP Framework

Founded in 2000 >180 Members ~ 40% US, 30% Europe, 30% Asia

## Standards Make Technology Pervasive

Standards are the basis for ubiquitous infrastructure



IEC 60038 Standard voltages IEC 60228 Conductors of insulated cables IEC 60269 Low-voltage power fuses IEC 60320 C13 Connectors and C14 Inlets IEC 60884 Household Plugs And Socket-Outlets IEC 61970 APIs for energy management systems

Widely adopted platforms require multiple standards

















Making a vision such as the pervasive metaverse will involve a constellation of standards!



























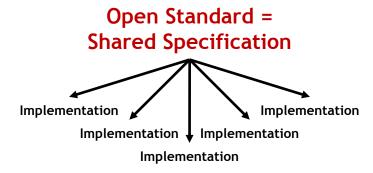








## Open Standards and Open Source



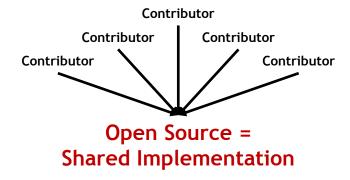
#### Best When ...

Competitive advantage in implementation innovation Industry needs multiple implementations

Need a stable design target

But..

Can take time to generate consensus on a new version Conformance testing is vital



#### Best When ...

No competitive advantage in implementation Industry consensus to share implementation resourcing Need rapid updates

But..

Can fork and fragment Need governance model clarity

## Open Standards and Proprietary Technology



**Proprietary Products** and Technologies

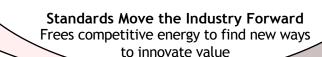
Rapid Innovation Darwinian testing ground Smart Innovators can retain long-term advantage

Complex and Interdependent Relationship

Beachhead standardization opportunities

Multi-company Governance **Open Standards** 

Do not R&D!! Satisfy wider need for technologies Thread of continuity for industry forward progress





## Basic Principles for Successful Open Standards

#### 'Open' means...

Open to all who wish to participate in their creation
Created under transparent, well-defined multi-company governance
No company has superior voting or ownership rights
Designs based on technical merit
No restrictions on who can implement and adopt

#### 'Free' means...

No charge for access to specification documents

No charge to users of specifications

Royalty-free patent license to implementors from all involved in creating the specification

More Member Patents == More Protection

#### Industry adoption is the measure of a standard's success

Voluntarily, market-driven usage throughout the industry Adoption needs an ecosystem to enable effective usage of the standard

## Z°

## How Are Open Standards Made



**Enabling applications and** engines to portably leverage hardware acceleration



#### 3D Graphics

GPU graphics and compute acceleration for native and web platforms



Run-time Optimized 3D Assets For pervasive deployment and interoperability



#### Portable XR

AR and VR runtimes, HMDs and UI







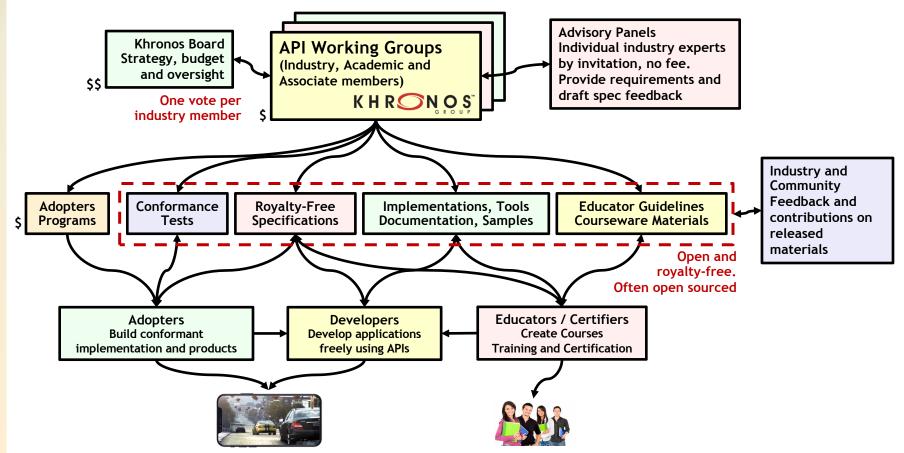


**Embedded** Camera API **Exploratory Group** 

#### **Sensor Processing**

Vision and sensor processing, inferencing acceleration

## **Khronos Cooperative Framework**



## Open Standard Lifecycle

#### New **Initiatives**

How does the industry decide to start new standardization initiatives?

#### Cooperative Framework

What are the organizational principles that enable effective consensus?

#### **IP** Framework

The legal framework to enable pervasive implementation and adoption

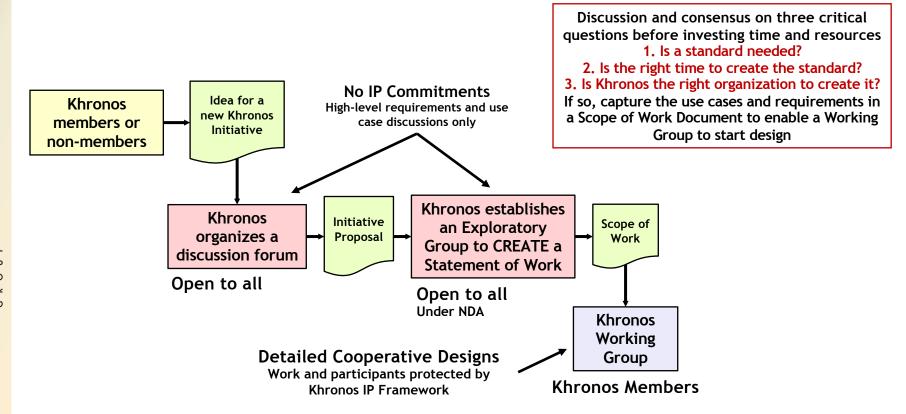
#### Conformance and Adoption

Widespread deployment of consistent and protected implementations

#### **Building Ecosystems**

Investing in documentation, tools, education and outreach activities

## **Khronos New Initiative Process**



Any entity, commercial or

academic, is

welcome to join

## Khronos Cooperative Framework

A Safe Place To Cooperate

Membership and Adopters Fees

Non-profit organization
Cooperative investment to build standards
AND their ecosystems

**Transparent Processes to Build Consensus** 

All members have full access to materials and activities
One member One Vote

Membership NDA

Encourages more open dialog between members

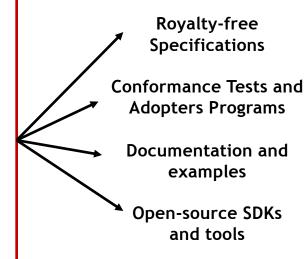
Agreed Definition of Conformance

Conformance tests ensure consistent implementations from multiple vendors

**IP Framework** 

Members won't assert their patents against officially conformant implementations



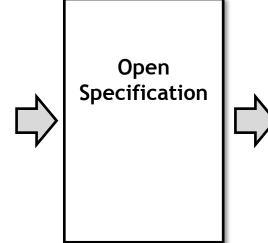


### 'Traditional' IP Frameworks

#### **SDO Members**

Explicit identification of patent licenses needed by specification implementers

Limits on scope of grant to protect Members' IP portfolios



#### **Implementers**

Need clarity on patent license terms from the specification creators to decide whether to adopt

Fewer fees and restrictions encourages wider adoption

#### Typical Traditional IP Frameworks

SDO Members are asked to list essential patents they are aware of (with license terms for their own)

Some SDOs allow terms with royalties - but typically must at least be reasonable and non-discriminatory (RAND)

Implementers negotiate licenses with SDO Members individually or through a 'patent pool'

## K H R O S O S

### 'Modern' IP Framework

#### **Khronos Members**

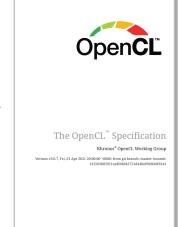
Agree to a ROYALTY-FREE reciprocal license to any essential patents they own for any CONFORMANT implementation of a ratified specification

(fail-safe and no patents need be disclosed)

License covers only the explicit contents of the specification - not other possible implementation technologies

(key to protecting member IP portfolios)





#### **Implementers**

Any entity can use a Khronos specification with no trademark or patent licenses at any time

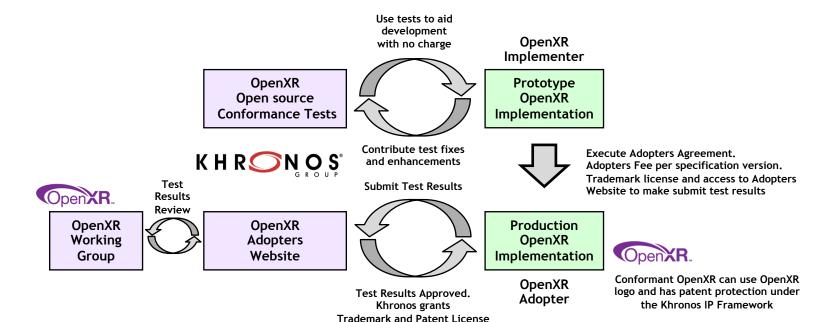
Formal Adopters are enabled to submit Conformance Test Results for trademark license and (optional) reciprocal patent licenses (no negotiation with Khronos or Khronos Members is needed)

#### Explicit reciprocal patent license in Membership and Adopter Agreements

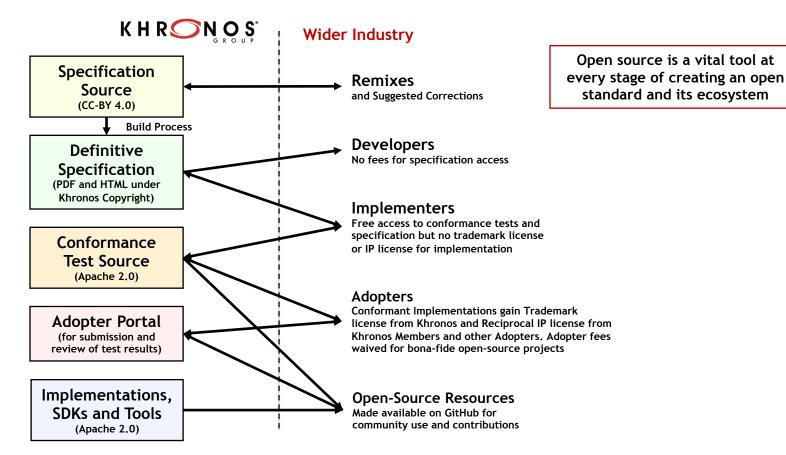
Enhances mutual protection and clarity
Builds network of licensing protection for the standard from Members and Adopters

## Implementation, Conformance and Adoption

Every open standard needs Conformance Tests and an associated Adopters Programs for defining conformance and ensuring cross-vendor portability

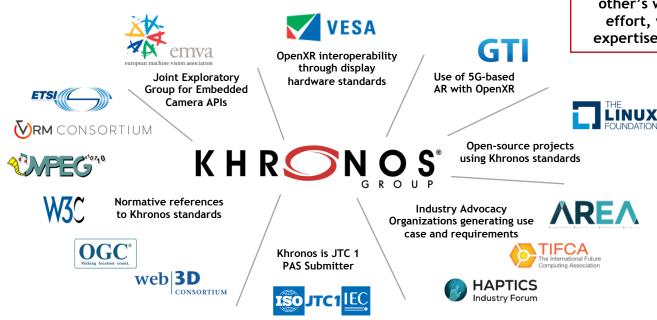


## Open Standards and Open-Source Synergy



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## **Standards Organization Cooperation**



Many standards organizations seek liaison opportunities to leverage or influence each other's work, and avoid duplication of effort, while respecting each others expertise, processes and IP frameworks

For example, Khronos's Liaison Agreements are constantly expanding and reflect the diverse ways that industry consortia can productively cooperate

## K H R O S O C P O

## Liaision Example: Bringing XR to the Web

XR Applications and Engines use an API from both the 3D and XR Stacks

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three.js







**Engines** 

















3D Stack
Driving GPUs to Render scenes

XR Stack
Handling XR Devices for creating UI

## K H R O S

### **International Standards**



- Most standards are created by Standard Developing Organizations (SDOs)
  - Fast moving industry consortia
- International Standards (IS) are created by multiple national standardization bodies
  - Often constitute the regulatory basis for public procurement of IT goods and services
  - Significantly widens the market recognition of a specification
- ISO/IEC JTC 1 PAS (Publicly Available Specification) Submission Process
  - Enables the transposition of a widely adopted industry standard into an IS
  - The SDO can remain in control of the PAS and IS to prevent fragmentation
- Khronos is the most recent SDO to be approved as a JTC 1 PAS Submitter
  - One of fourteen SDOs globally
  - glTF 2.0 will be Khronos' first PAS Submission



glTF's journey to become an International Standard

May 2021
Khronos accepted as
JTC 1 PAS Submitter

September 2021

Khronos publicly releases gITF 2.0.0 spec drafted to IS quality criteria October 2021
Khronos Submits

Khronos Submits gITF 2.0 to JTC 1

2022

gITF 2.0 becomes IS (if approved)

2023 and Beyond

Further submissions to keep PAS and IS aligned

## **Closing Thoughts**

#### No standard ever built itself

Participation is the life blood to creating open standards

### Creating Standards takes passion and patience

Of those that see the benefits to the industry and society

### Please consider getting involved

You will be made very welcome!

