

# Bluetooth SIG Standard Deprecation & Withdrawal for BT v4.1 and Below

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1.1	Bluetooth SIG Standard Deprecation & Withdrawal for BT v4.1 and Below	17 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	M SIMS
1.0	Bluetooth SIG Standard Deprecation & Withdrawal for BT v4.1 and Below	31 <sup>st</sup> July 2018	M SIMS

# Bluetooth SIG Standard Deprecation & Withdrawal for BT v4.1 and Below

BT4.1, 3.0 +HS, 2.1+EDR,

JULY 31, 2018

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The Bluetooth Special Interest Group (SIG) announced their decision to deprecate and withdraw older versions of Bluetooth Core specifications from v2.0 to v4.1.

Breakdown on how the news affects LM Technologies customers.

- Bluetooth v2.0 has been deprecated and support of the standard is now being withdrawn. If after withdrawal products can still be certified if absolutely necessary, if required the costs will increase to \$25'000.
- Customers who have listed their Bluetooth v2.0 to v4.1 standard using an EPL are not affected, **once certified, always certified.**

Deprecation for Bluetooth v2.1 – v4.1 will be in effect as off; January 28, 2019  
Complete withdrawal by July 1, 2020.

Again, any certification/listing at these specification levels must be completed before the start of 2019 to keep costs at the usual \$4,000/\$8,000 listing fees.

Clarification of the SIG's terms;

Deprecated, means it will not be maintained (Errata and TSEs will not be processed for that specification) and SIG members will only be permitted to complete Qualifications/Declarations that refer to, or use, existing qualified products that use that specification.

Withdrawn, means it will not be maintained (Errata and TSEs will not be processed for that specification) and members will not be permitted to complete Qualifications/Declarations for any

product using that specification and will not be able to add new models to any existing Qualification/Declarations that use the specification.

## Production & Supply

LM Technologies Ltd production is not directly affected by this news, LM Technologies Ltd maintains all of its planned and forecasted production and continues to accept new product designs for these standards of products with advice on how a product can be planned for a future update to 4.2.

Some of our 4.1v based products in time will be updated to v4.2 and not need to be re-certified or re-listed but may need to be re-tested. For these products all of the news is negated.

## EOL Planning.

No EOL notices have been issued against any of our chipsets due to this announcement.

No EOL planned dates have been updated to any earlier date and ultimately nothing has changed at present.

Indirectly some IC vendors may in the future use this notice to shorten any EOL planned notifications. IC vendors plan the lifecycles of their products against shipment volumes per quarter. If sales are to shrink unexpectedly then EOL notice may be brought forward.

**Is the market likely to shrink?** Certainly not in the short term as many of the Bluetooth 4.1 & below products offered by the IC vendors offer features that are not available within any of their Bluetooth 4.2 & 5.0 based products.

As the market naturally changes, it is by how much the SIG's notice has hastened the move to 4.2 & higher based chipsets that is unknown today, but likely this notice will increase the speed in which the market moves to 4.2 or higher based products.

Our own estimated impact of the notice is that we may see a chipset EOL between 6 to 12 months earlier, due to the SIG's notice, yet this would not be inclusive of IC which holds high volume sales. Speak with one of our team for further insight.

## Bluetooth SIG



**January 28<sup>th</sup> 2019**

Withdrawal of the following

- Bluetooth Specification Version 2.0 + EDR



**Deprecation January 28<sup>th</sup> 2019  
and withdrawal on July 1, 2020**

- Bluetooth Specification Version 2.1 + EDR & Bluetooth Core Specification Addendum 1
- Bluetooth Specification Version 3.0 + HS
- Bluetooth Specification Version 4.0 + Bluetooth Core Specification Addendum 2, 3 revision 2 & 4
- Bluetooth Specification Version 4.1

Members with an existing qualification may update to the latest specification version by completing any tests that have changed or been added since their original qualification, provided that the only changes are to update the existing features in the original qualification to the current requirements of the latest specification and do not include the addition or removal of any features.

## Summary Table v1.1

		using specifications that are ...		
		Active	Deprecated	Withdrawn
<b>Create a new qualification/declaration owned by your member company</b>				
1a	Create qualification/declaration for a product that uses a new Bluetooth design. <i>(testing required)</i>	Allowed	Allowed for a fee before Jan 28, 2019. Not allowed on or after Jan 28, 2019	Not Allowed
1b	Create qualification/declaration for a product that references an existing Bluetooth design. <i>(if testing is not required)</i>	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
<b>Use an existing qualification/declaration owned by your member company</b>				
2a	Sell an existing Qualified Product.	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
2b	Add a new Qualified Product.	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
2c	<p>Make typographical updates* to existing qualification/declaration, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project Name</li> <li>• Product Category</li> <li>• Product Website</li> <li>• Product Description</li> <li>• Listing Date**</li> <li>• Published Date***</li> <li>• Design Name</li> <li>• Design Model Number</li> <li>• Design Description</li> <li>• Design Hardware version</li> <li>• Design Software version</li> <li>• WiFi Certification ID</li> <li>• Reference Integration Notes (RIN)</li> </ul>	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
2d	<p>All other updates, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a Subset Product</li> <li>• Apply active TCRL</li> <li>• Apply TSE</li> </ul>	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed