

May 2018

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New Kid on the Blockchain | AIM Internet of Things Creates New Workgroup

Blockchain...chances are you've heard the word, but can you easily describe it to others? Do you *really* know what it means and how it is positioned to become the technology innovation of the future?

Blockchain technology is being adopted throughout the global supply chain and its influence is growing daily. That's just one reason the AIM Internet of Things (IOT) Industry Group made the decision to create a new workgroup to assist in positioning the clear need for automatic identification and data capture technology as the Blockchain continues to mature.

AIM is extending a call for individuals interested in offering their knowledge and expertise to join this effort. Inclusion in the new workgroup will give you a voice within the industry as well as greater awareness of the latest happenings in the Blockchain sector as it continues to develop.

On May 10th, the IOT Industry Group meets to discuss next steps. If you would like to participate in the new workgroup, contact AIM Member Engagement Manager [Mike Allen](#) to receive an invitation to the first meeting of the Blockchain WG.

EU Regulation Update | Your Support is Critical to Future Efforts!!

Several months ago, AIM & AIM Europe provided information on the issues being seen in Europe related to gaining approval for the new frequencies. Although the new frequencies were approved as an ETSI standard (EN 302 208) the adoption by the countries has been very poor.

Additionally, other large organizations are stepping in to challenge our use of the frequencies. To prevent this, AIM and its global community needs to mount a strong campaign that will convince the various members of the European Union to approve the frequencies for our use.

While less than a dozen countries have implemented the REC 70-03 frequencies (some with restrictions), the remaining CEPT countries aren't required to do since implementation is only a recommendation at this time.

Many countries have already allocated some parts of the band to other groups and want to keep their reservations. This may include 918-921 MHz for GSM-R (GSM for the Railways) and 915-918 MHz for Military. However, this makes the band not usable for RFID in many countries in Europe.

In June 2017, the EU Commission proposed a "squeezed option" for RFID and IoT resulting in 915-919.4 MHz. The RFID community, including AIM, RAIN, GS1, and ConnectWave (formally CNRFID), answered timely and positively, agreeing that the 919.4-921 MHz frequency band would be preserved for GSM-R until 2019.

Since then several discussions have taken place with the EU and the vote to adopt new frequencies is expected to take place during their meeting in July 2018.

AIM, RAIN, GS1 and ConnectWave are asking all members to sign and send a letter of support to their respective Member Country representatives as soon as possible. In addition, we are asking you to contact your customers to do the same. To download letter templates and a contact list for EU Representatives, [click here...](#)

The support of the entire global community of AIM is vital in this effort! If you, or a customer has an interest in participating in future activities that will secure the future of RFID technologies in Europe, contact AIM by [email](#) or phone (+1.724.742.4470) to get involved.

Welcome New Members!



Manufacturer | Mountain View, California | Debangana (Debs) Mukherjee - Delegate | www.cisc.at

CISC Semiconductor is a leading supplier of RFID measurement and test solutions. CISC's core competences include RFID/NFC measurement, RFID/NFC test systems, RFID/NFC standardization, design, modeling, simulation, verification and optimization: Find and fix reader, tag and system issues in seconds instead of days. Automated performance tests for tags, readers and systems for the know how to place, track and manage your tags. Automated conformance tests to save a factor of 100 in GS1, ISO/IEC and other standards compliance tests. Save time and money -- For your benefit and success!

Overcoming Barriers to NextGen Supply Chain Innovation | MHI Industry Report

Recently released by MHI, this annual publication provides an up-to-date perspective on emerging supply chain trends. The findings in this year's report are based on survey responses from 1,100 manufacturing and supply chain industry leaders from a wide range of industries. Half of respondents hold executive-level positions such as CEO, Vice President, General Manager, or Department Head. Participating companies range in size from small to large, with 47 percent reporting annual sales in excess of \$100 million, and 10 percent reporting annual sales of \$10 billion or more.

Key findings include:

- Eleven technologies are working together to create next-generation supply chains that are digital, on-demand and always-on, with eight out of ten survey respondents believing these supply chains will be the predominant model within just 5 years.
- The top technologies respondents say can be a source of either disruption or competitive advantage are: robotics & automation, predictive analytics, the internet of things, artificial intelligence and driverless vehicles & drones.
- The top three barriers to adoption of these technologies are: making the business case for NextGen supply chain investments, tackling the supply chain skills gap & workforce shortage and building trust & security in digital, always-on supply chains.
- When it comes to cybersecurity, the sophistication of hackers and "threat actors" is the biggest risk, followed by the lack of awareness of the threat within the organization and poor cybersecurity practices among suppliers.

To get the full report, [read more here...](#)

Standards Issue | Valuable Insight on Standards Today



Dan Kimball serves as the "voice" of standards for AIM Matters. His column, Standards Issue, addresses inquiries or the latest happenings in the world of standards that you need to know. If you have a topic for Dan to address, email [Standards Issue](#).

Deciphering Alphabet Soup | ANSI, ISO and the ITU

Sometimes an industry can get lost in their own acronyms. That secret language that makes an industry feel that they are different from every other industry on earth. Then mix two sets of industry acronyms, say AIDC and [read more here...](#)

Chapter Spotlight



Henrik Granau - General Secretary
Værløse, Denmark
www.aimdenmark.dk

AIM Denmark will host its annual industry event, [RFID & IoT in the Nordics](#), on June 7th, featuring RAIN President Steve Halliday as the keynote speaker. A discount of 15% on registration is available to all AIM members. **(Visit the Members Only section for details).**

Learn more about AIM Denmark, its members and the work being done there by clicking on the chapter logo above.

Industry Voices & Hot Topics

[Internet of Things' Role on Battlefields and at Sea](#)
Nextgov

[eBay Now Lets Sellers Autofill by Scanning Product Barcodes](#)
The Verge

[Microsoft Pledges \\$5B IOT Investment Over 4 Years](#)
GeekWire

[Blockchain & IOT: A Marriage Made in Data Heaven?](#)
The Business Journals

[Retailers Discuss the Benefits of RFID](#)
IOT Journal

[The NFL Will Now Share Player RFID Data Between All Teams](#)
Fast Company

Featured Industry Events

Inside AIM Industry Groups

The [Track & Trace Industry Group](#) has initiated development for a new whitepaper, *Return on Investment (ROI) for Track & Trace*, and is requesting input from other AIM members and industry peers.

To review the outline and offer suggestions for this critical document, [read more here...](#)

If you have comments on the current outline, or are interested in participating on the next call (scheduled for May 15th at 3:00 pm ET), contact Member Engagement Manager [Mike Allen](#) by May 11th.

Members Only | Opportunities

Call for Nominations | 2018 AIM Board

AIM is in search of good leaders to serve on its Board of Directors and currently accepting applications for its 2018 election process.

Four positions are available - two, 2-year terms and two, 3-year terms starting July 1, 2018. Members may nominate an individual or themselves.

Nominees should submit a [Nomination Application](#) with a current resume containing job, volunteer, and other industry related experiences. Application deadline is May 16th. [Contact AIM](#) with related questions.



Many offer exclusive discounts for AIM members!
Visit the [Members Only](#) page for details.

Back by popular demand!!

AIM & RAIN Pavilion | [IDTechEx](#)
November 14 – 15, 2018 | Santa Clara, CA.

RFID & IoT in the Nordics 2018



**June 7th 2018
in Copenhagen**



Only three spots remain! The Pavilion will be featured at the IoT Applications event during IDTechEx and is uniquely designed to allow AIM & RAIN member companies to showcase their products and services.

This Pavilion offers valuable and tangible benefits to increase connections. Exhibitors must be members to participate. To reserve your spot, contact [Mary Lou Bosco](#).



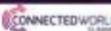
Vienna, Austria | June 26-28

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AIM is the trusted worldwide industry association for the automatic identification industry. For nearly half a century, AIM has provided unbiased information, educational resources and standards to providers and users of these technologies.

AIM membership provides access to an insider's perspective on trends and opportunities along with a voice in shaping the growth and future of the industry. AIM member benefits include education, advocacy and community, as well as a role in creating industry standards through collaboration.

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