

December 13, 2005

Press Release

Ken Sakamura
Leader, TRON Project
Chair, T-Engine Forum
Chair, Ubiquitous ID Center

Worldwide Global Release of Ubiquitous ID Technology to Start

The Worldwide Release of a Ubiquitous ID Use Kit for Building
a Global, Ultra-wide Area Distributed - Ubiquitous ID Infrastructure System
and for Promoting its Use.

The Ubiquitous ID Center (Shinagawa, Tokyo, Members: 490 organizations, Chair: Ken Sakamura, Professor at the University of Tokyo) is the world's largest international technology forum that has been working to establish ubiquitous ID technology, such as ucodes, which are codes used to identify physical objects and locations, and to realize ubiquitous computing environments where such technology is utilized. As part of the global launch of this ubiquitous ID technology, the Center has started building a global wide area distributed - Ubiquitous ID Infrastructure System and will release the Ubiquitous ID Use Kit worldwide to promote the use of this system in January, 2006.

(1) Building of the wide area distributed - Ubiquitous ID Infrastructure System

Ubiquitous ID technology provides ubiquitous information services which use ucodes stored in RFID tags or barcodes, etc. to retrieve digital information corresponding to these ucodes from a server system connected to networks around the world. In this technology, RFID tags as well as a global ultra-wide area distributed - network system that is suitable for ubiquitous information distribution, form the core. Therefore, the Ubiquitous ID Center has implemented flexible network protocols suitable for ubiquitous information distribution over the existing Internet environment using overlay network technology and has started building a global wide area distributed - Ubiquitous ID Infrastructure System. This Ubiquitous ID Infrastructure System has been designed on the assumption that several hundred millions of server nodes across the world would operate in collaboration, and have sufficient scalability and flexibility for global ubiquitous information distribution in the future. We have already started technology experiments regarding collaborative operations among ubiquitous ID

[Information 4]

infrastructure systems, jointly with the National Internet Development Agency of Korea (NIDA).

(2) Simultaneous global release of the Ubiquitous ID Utilization Kit

Ubiquitous ID Use Kit, a kit that utilizes the wide area distributed - Ubiquitous ID Infrastructure System and enables anyone to easily manage goods or location information using RFID tags anywhere in the world will be simultaneously released worldwide in January 2006. The Ubiquitous ID Use Kit includes standard RFID tags that meet open global standards by the Ubiquitous ID Center, a Ubiquitous Communicator (UC), and a software system for the use of ubiquitous ID infrastructure systems. With these items, users can easily edit contents in the same way they would create a web site and they can also easily do authoring, i.e. relating these contents to RFID tags. In addition, authored contents can be retrieved and displayed by reading RFID tags attached to physical objects and locations by making inquiries to Ubiquitous ID Infrastructure System with the UC. Conventionally, most of these RFID solutions were dedicated systems released only for large-scale corporate users, but the Ubiquitous ID Use Kit meets open global standards and also satisfies a wide range of requirements from individual users to large scale solutions of worldwide enterprises.

The Ubiquitous ID Use Kit was developed jointly by the YRP Ubiquitous Networking Laboratory (Shinagawa, Tokyo), which is the core company of the Ubiquitous ID Center, and UC Technology, Ltd (Shinagawa, Tokyo). The English and Japanese versions will be simultaneously released in January 2006. The Ubiquitous ID Infrastructure System utilizes systems provided by the Ubiquitous ID Center.

[Inquires regarding this issue]

Ubiquitous ID Center / YRP Ubiquitous Networking Laboratory (Contact: Mr. Noboru Koshizuka)

e-mail: press@uidcenter.org

Phone: 03-5437-2290

[Information 4]

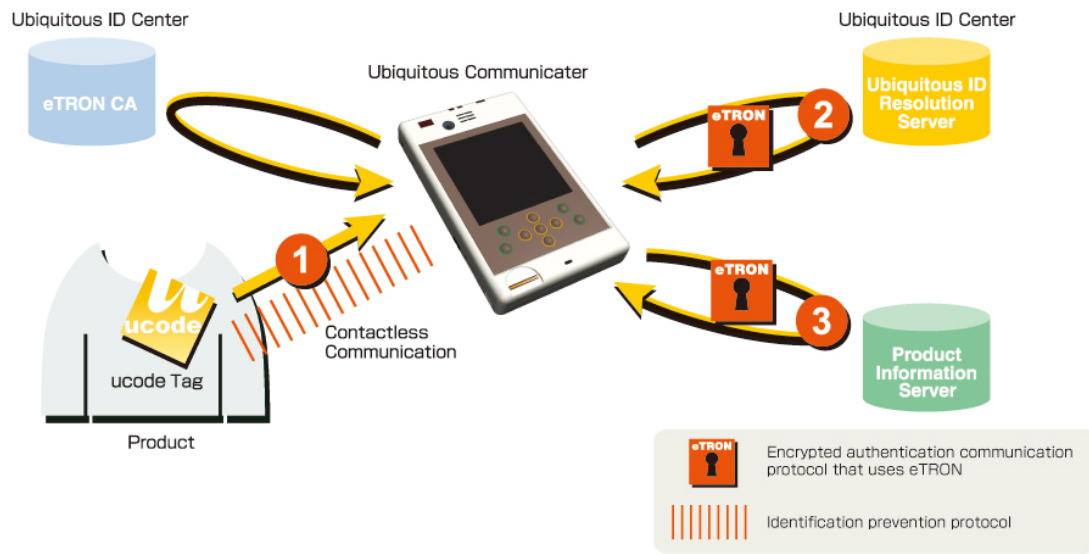


Diagram 1: Ubiquitous ID Architecture

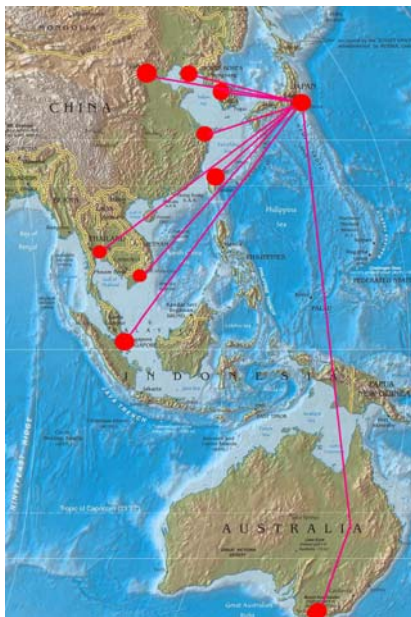


Diagram 2: Locations of Ubiquitous ID Centers in the world

Appendix: Details of Ubiquitous ID Use Kit

Easy authoring

This kit can easily relate ucodes to a specific URL and register them. For instance, users can take photos with a digital camera on a Ubiquitous Communicator (UC), relate the data of the photos to ucodes and register the data to the server.

This enables the user to complete the following processes with just a single UC;

1. Take pictures of (surrounding) physical objects.
2. Enter the data of the physical objects with the keyboard.
3. Hold the UC over a ucode tag (register the ucode tag to the server along with a photo and data).
4. Attach ucode tags to physical objects.

Therefore, users can very easily relate ucodes to physical objects as well as instantly register information about physical objects as graphical content.

In addition to referring to registered information using a UC, users can also obtain information just by holding the UC in the uID evaluation kit at new locations even after the physical object has been distributed. As long as there is a network, information relating to physical objects can be referenced from anywhere in the world.

Familiar examples of use

Using this kit, a user who has purchased an item registers the purchase record (purchase date, purchaser, purchase price, warranty expiry date and contact details in case of failure) along with a photo of the item and attaches an ucode tag to the object. This enables the user to effectively and easily manage objects around them just by holding a UC over a ucode tag attached to an object even if the object is lost or has been given to someone else.

Contents of the Kit

The Ubiquitous ID Use Kit that will be released soon was developed based on the concept, "Ubiquitous Computing for Anyone", in other words, "without any complicated operations". Since Ubiquitous ID Center-authorized tags are included in the kit, it can be used immediately after purchasing by configuring the UC network settings only. The contents of the kit are as follows;

[Information 4]

(1) Main unit/Accessories

Ubiquitous Communicator (UC) main unit	...1
Cradle for the Ubiquitous Communicator (UC)	...1
AC adapter for the Ubiquitous Communicator (UC)	...1
Power cord for the Ubiquitous Communicator (UC)	...1
Serial cable for the Ubiquitous Communicator (UC)	...1
Authorized ucode tags	...100
SD memory card	...1

(2) Attachments

Introduction manual and introduction guide	...1
Server access account form	...1
Warranty card	...1

Appearance



[Information 4]

Registration



[Information 4]

Contents display

