

LXI, This is a Good Thing!

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I recently was talking to my new neighbor about what I do for a living. This discussion always involves more than just a simple description of test engineering or that I'm in measurement and test. What? Test? Isn't that something you try to avoid in life? Test is one of those activities that most people just don't think about because someone else does. For example, when was the last time you wondered if your cell phone was really going to work? This is a good thing.



Now we are launching an entirely new test environment on a topic that most of the general population doesn't even know exists or cares to know about. What does all this have to do with LXI and the recently released version 1.0 of the specification at Autotestcon 2005? Who would have envisioned that 40 of the world's leading test companies would be members after only a year in the making?

LXI is one of those good things that ultimately you don't want anyone to think about. The goal of the consortium and the standard is that LXI just exists—it works consistently, predictably, efficiently, reliably.

If LXI is implemented correctly, it will revolutionize worldwide test deployment. It should reduce implementation cost, minimize system integration obstacles, and ultimately not be thought about much.

When was the last time you went to the Internet and wondered what was going to happen? You just don't think about the infrastructure that makes it work—it just works. This is a good thing.

So, too, for LXI. We've gone through the efforts of concept selling, enlistment, specification, and implementation. Now we begin the task of making it happen. In the end, no one will think about how it all works—it just does, consistently, predictably, efficiently, reliably—that's LXI.

The next time you are asked about what you do for a living, just say casually, I implement worldwide test systems that use LXI, a standards-based specification uniquely designed for test and measurement that allows companies across the known universe to design and deploy product and component testing for aerospace, communications, and other wide and varied electronics manufacturing so that you don't have to think much about it.

This is a good thing. It's LXI.