

The USB 3.0 Promoter group starts working on the next generation of USB connector-- the USB Type-C connector, a supplement to the USB 3.1 specification promising a thinner and (yes!) reversible design.



Based on existing USB 3.1 and 2.0 technology, the Type-C connector will support scalable power charging within a design size similar to existing USB 2.0 Micro-B connectors. However the connector will not be compatible with existing USB ports (Type-A, Type-B, Micro-B et al), demanding the creation of passive new-to-existing cables and adapter for use with legacy devices.

“While USB technology is well established as the favored choice for connecting and powering devices, we recognize the need to develop a new connector to meet evolving design trends in terms of size and usability,” the USB 3.0 Promoter Group says. “The new Type-C connector will fit well with the market’s direction and affords an opportunity to lay a foundation for future versions of USB.”

The next generation USB connector should receive industry review during Q1 2014 before the specification is published by H2 2014. Further information (if not images) will be available on an as yet unspecified future date.

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