

## Re: Digital Cable – CableCARD

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.mediacenter/2004-11/3034.html>

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**From:** Curious (*curious\_at\_like2.know*)

**Date:** 11/18/04

Date: Wed, 17 Nov 2004 16:44:01 -0800

I did not realize that you could buy a cable STB at an electronics store the way you can buy a satellite STB. Please provide an example of a brand and model of Cable STB that I can buy at a store instead of getting one issued by the cable company as I may want to get one.

"Phil Taylor" <philipt@private-citizen-sorta.com> wrote in message news:uMHDd\$OzEHA.1400@TK2MSFTNGP11.phx.gbl...

> you still need to pay the cable company to receive premium content,  
> regardless of the device used to receive it. if you dont do that, no  
> content comes in to the cable feed at all.

>

> how does the cable company get their montly fee if you have one of the HD  
> STBs out there that we can buy at Fry's/Best Buy/Circuit City?

>

> same way, thru your monthly fee.

>

> as to if they bump the fee for an additional feed in the house that is  
> done without any hw from the cable company – yes they usually charge per  
> TV connected regardless.

>

> "JW" <anonymous@Nosпам.Iam> wrote in message  
> news:eaY\$90OzEHA.2040@tk2msftngp13.phx.gbl...

>> Using your desired solution how does the cable company insure that they  
>> are being paid the monthly fee required to provide the premium channels  
>> that they have to pay to the supplier of the premium channels? Take ESPN  
>> for example the cable company has to pay ESPN around \$1 or more per  
>> subscriber that receive ESPN from them.

>>

>> "Phil Taylor" <philipt@private-citizen-sorta.com> wrote in message  
>> news:%23vcJOiOzEHA.2200@TK2MSFTNGP09.phx.gbl...

>>> true, the bs guide thats on one of the low channels, and only supports  
>>> the non-premium channels, is available via the Comcast. but given it  
>>> doesnt support the premium channels its of limited usefulness.

>>>

>>> maybe other cable MSOs provide better guides for CableCard customers, so  
>>> ymmv.

>>>

>>> *as far as how this rolls out, I suspect the first path is going to be a  
>>> PC-specific card that incorporates the same circuitry that's in a  
>>> CableCard, and not a card that enables "plugging in" CableCards. the  
>>> qual phase alone is harder for the plug-in approach.*  
>>>  
>>> *just so folks aren't expecting this at CES, let's be clear this is all  
>>> speculative and in no way is grounded in any product plans coming from  
>>> Building 50.*  
>>>  
>>> *"JW" <anonymous@Nospam.Iam> wrote in message  
>>> news:%23poov32yEHA.1652@TK2MSFTNGP11.phx.gbl...  
>>>> Here is a good description of the current cable card offerings.  
>>>>  
>>>> <http://www.audioholics.com/techtips/specs/formats/CableCARDprimer.php>  
>>>>  
>>>> Note the fact that even though they do not offer Interactive Guides  
>>>> does not mean that one-way guides are not available.  
>>>> Also note that even when a PC card supporting cable cards is made  
>>>> available that a slot is required to hold the Cable Card leased from  
>>>> the local cable company.  
>>>>  
>>>> Hopefully we will see such a tuner card product for PCs at the CES in  
>>>> January and of course it would be even better if the product provided  
>>>> MCE support.  
>>>>  
>>>> "Derek R. Flickinger" <DrFlick@ONLINE.InteractiveHomesInc.com> wrote in  
>>>> message news:u4Z5TJ2yEHA.344@TK2MSFTNGP10.phx.gbl...  
>>>>> Just to set expectations:  
>>>>>  
>>>>> IF you were able to plug it in some how, all of the current CableCARD  
>>>>> offerings here in The States are one-way only. This means that you  
>>>>> still would not have the ability to send commands upstream for things  
>>>>> like Pay-Per-View or VOD. You also would not have many of the  
>>>>> features currently implemented in STBs like the Guide and menus, etc.  
>>>>> (no big deal IF you could use it from within MCE). Current plans for  
>>>>> two-way CableCARD features look like they still are at least a year  
>>>>> out.  
>>>>>  
>>>>> Regards,  
>>>>>  
>>>>> =D-  
>>>>>  
>>>>> Derek R. Flickinger  
>>>>> Interactive Homes, Inc.  
>>>>>  
>>>>> "Kyle" <Kyle@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message  
>>>>> news:60776913-3777-45A4-BD01-06989C4AF006@microsoft.com...  
>>>>>> I noticed new TVs on the market that are selling TVs labeled as  
>>>>>> "Digital  
>>>>>> Cable Ready" and have a slot in the back that looks like a PCMCIA  
>>>>>> slot that*

>>>>> *you can insert a Motorola Digital CableCARD into to receive Digital  
>>>>> Cable  
>>>>> channels without the need for a STB (set-top-box). My cable provider  
>>>>> (Insight) supports this technology. My question is, will the MCE PC  
>>>>> support  
>>>>> this new technology if at all, or anytime soon?  
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