

Where Are You? Where Did I Put That?

As life becomes more hectic, there is an increasing need to be able to accurately locate people and things. We want to arrive at a large shopping mall or a crowded event and quickly find our friends. Or maybe we are feeling frustrated as we stand at the curb looking for our ride-hailing driver. And when a prized possession has been misplaced or is feared lost, we would like to have a magical means by which to locate the item. We find ourselves looking to technology to solve the problem of location: find someone or find something.

Challenge: The Performance Gaps in Today's Technologies

Today, when location is important, GPS, Wi-Fi or Bluetooth are often used to help in our search for that friend, driver or missing item. However, these wireless technologies were originally developed to serve other purposes and are often not well suited to meet the basic demands of location functionality.

These technologies fall short when it comes to the required precision, performance, reliability, scalability and security when looking for someone or something with precise location accuracy.

Solution: Enabling Precise Location Using Ultra-Wideband (UWB)

UWB provides precise real-time spatial awareness which helps users to find someone or something nearby with a high degree of accuracy – down to centimeters!

UWB can integrate with existing smart devices such as mobile phones, providing simple-to-use solutions which enable a user to find a friend or a misplaced item easily with a high degree of precision. Let's explore how this works in a bit more depth.

FICO | The Power to Be Precise



Find Someone

We have all had that sense of frustration when trying to find someone in a crowded place. Picture yourself trying to meet up

with friends in a large shopping mall, at a concert or a sporting event where it is hard to specify an exact meeting spot. Or maybe you are at a busy location such as an airport searching for your ride-sharing driver.

And as we move further into the digital world, we may wish to share content such as a business card, documents, files, images, links, music or videos with meeting participants; to do this, we must find participants' devices that can receive the targeted content.

The use of UWB technology can help you to easily and precisely locate someone or share digital content through the use of a UWB-enabled service application on your UWB-enabled smartphone. As your smartphone finds smart devices belonging to your friends, the ride hailing driver or meeting participants nearby, you may select one or many users' devices by touching a display or sending a message. It is that simple!



Find Something

Have you ever misplaced an important item such as your wallet, passport or keys and simply can't remember the exact

location where it was last seen? Or maybe when running late, you drove into a parking garage and parked your car, only to return hours later and not be quite sure where you parked.

In either case, you begin to feel anxious as you search for the misplaced item or try to determine where your car is parked. Having the ability to use UWB technology to assist in finding the misplaced item or your car becomes a necessity.

To find something nearby, you simply open a UWB-enabled service application, such as "find my device" on your UWB-enabled mobile device. The device will find associated misplaced items nearby and could even display the direction to the misplaced item. As you get closer to the misplaced item, the UWB-enabled finding device notifies you by sending a message or sounding an alarm.

UWB Enables a Whole New Level in Pinpointing Location!

UWB technology is taking the ability to locate a friend or a misplaced item to a whole new level. We are talking about pinpoint precision accuracy, anywhere people go – indoors or outdoors, to find a person or even the smallest object within centimeters of its actual location. It's about reliable performance without any lags, latency or interference. And it's also about security, with devices that enable authenticated access or denial of unauthorized access to critical information or services. So, when you need to reliably find someone or something, look no further than the use of UWB technology in your smart device!

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