

# Wireless RERC

## Mainstream Tech News October 2022

Welcome, Wireless RERC team! As part of an innovative team, it is important to be aware of how companies and organizations are improving and integrating Mainstream Wireless Tech.

We encourage you to learn more about any, or all, of the information in this edition!

### Tech Event:

- **Wireless RERC Apple Accessibility (Hybrid) Event** — Thursday, November 10, 10:00AM-12:00PM. Attend in person (limit 30 in-person attendees) or virtually to learn about built-in accessibility features for vision, hearing, mobility, and cognitive support needs on both MacOS and iOS. Register at: [pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register](https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register)

### Tech Initiative:

- **FCC Program to Support Broadband Access** — The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service. A household is eligible if least one of the following criteria is met: Medicaid, SSI, Veterans Pension or Survivor Benefits, received a Federal Pell Grant in the current award year, and more.

### Tech News:

- **The Matter Smart Home Standard Is Now Available**



Matter launched this month, and promises to simplify the smart home experience, from purchase, to set up, to use. Now, instead of buying into a specific ecosystem, you can look for the Matter-capable seal of interoperability. Matter will also provide better privacy with local control (**Thread** and Wi-Fi, rather than the cloud). This means even if your internet goes down, your smart home will still work.

## Your Mainstream Wireless Tech News

We hope to learn from each other in the center. If you find any useful or informative news about mainstream wireless tech, please share for future editions.

Send articles, videos, podcasts to:

[ask179@pitt.edu](mailto:ask179@pitt.edu)

View past editions at:  
[wirelessrerc.pitt.edu](https://wirelessrerc.pitt.edu)

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### Tech News (continued):

- **Samsung Electronics and Google Expand Partnership to Elevate Smart Home Experiences** — The partnership will give more flexibility and choice, as Samsung and Google build on multi-admin, allowing users to find, choose to connect and control Matter-enabled devices through SmartThings or Google Home apps on Android.
- **Microsoft Adaptive Accessories Now Available** — Microsoft released their Adaptive Accessories on October 25. Microsoft's Adaptive Accessories include the Xbox Adaptive Controller, the Microsoft Adaptive Mouse, the Adaptive Hub (a central connector with wireless buttons in place of a traditional keyboard), and Adaptive Buttons including the D-pad, joystick, and dual-button.
- **When Will the iPhone Be Forced to Use USB-C?**  
The European Parliament voted overwhelmingly (602 for, 13 against, and 8 abstentions) in favor of new legislation that would eventually require all mobile phones sold in the EU to use a USB-C port for wired charging.
- **Apple Introduces Ask Apple for Developers**  
A new series of interactive Q&As and one-on-one consultations that will provide developers with more opportunities to connect directly with Apple experts for insight, support, and feedback.



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### Tech News (continued):

- **[Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids: Research, Then Shop](#)** — What to know and where to turn for help regarding FDA-approved over-the-counter hearing aids that are now available at stores, pharmacies, and online.

### Tech Releases:

- **[Google Pixel Watch Review: It's a Smarter Fitbit](#)** — An in-depth review highlighting both the positives and negatives of Google's first-gen compactly designed smartwatch.
- **[Amazon Fire HD 8 Plus \(2022\) Review](#)** — A deep dive into Amazon's Fire HD 8 tablet. The review highlights the affordability, USB-C and wireless charging, but notes barriers with accessing Google apps (specifically YouTube) and services.
- **[Apple Unveils Completely Redesigned iPad in Four Vibrant Colors](#)** — The updated iPad features a large 10.9-inch Liquid Retina display, A14 Bionic chip, advanced cameras, fast wireless connectivity, USB-C, support for the new Magic Keyboard Folio, and more.

### Follow the Wireless RERC on Social Media



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