A powerful, unique positioning platform from Sonitor® that represents a new paradigm in indoor positioning.

FORKBEARD – THE FUTURE. FOUND.™

The Story of Forkbeard

In 986 A.D., “Forkbeard,” son of the Danish Viking king “Bluetooth,” revolted against his father and dethroned him. Forkbeard went on to navigate the seas to find new land to expand his kingdom. Forkbeard became the first Viking king of England as well as parts of Norway.

Forkbeard, by Sonitor, is a new indoor positioning technology platform that expands, disrupts and improves the paradigm we know as indoor positioning today. Forkbeard - aspiring to become the new global standard for indoor positioning.

The Technology

Based on Fast Ultrasound Echo Location (FUEL), leveraging acoustic reflections, Forkbeard delivers nearly 100 times more location accuracy than Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) providing inch level location accuracy indoors. Combining the strength of ultrasound with the formidable array of sensor technologies found in modern device platforms, Forkbeard accurately positions mobile devices such as smartphones, tablets and laptops with a latency of only up to 1 – 2 seconds.
Forkbeard is Sonitor’s latest innovation in ultrasound-based indoor positioning delivering nearly 100 times better accuracy than BLE and always with 100% room level accuracy. Forkbeard is a perfect complement to Sonitor’s market-leading Sense™ platform adding unprecedented, unparalleled, accurate, reliable indoor positioning capabilities to Android, iOS, and Windows smartphones.

Powered by Phone-FUEL™, the Forkbeard technology platform uniquely leverages ultrasound reflections (echoes) to increase positioning accuracy and reliability, whereas in any other technology, such echoes are considered a nuisance and unwanted. The first release of Forkbeard, called Lyra™, combines mobile smart device positioning with less than 2 ft. corridor accuracy and 100% room level accuracy.

With Lyra, you can be confident that you can navigate to the right location inside a building, and once you arrive at that location, you’ll be positioned accurately within seconds – no bleeding from room to the corridor, no erroneous hopping from one room to another and with virtually no latency.

Forkbeard’s ultrasound location transmitters are called ultraBeacons™ and are battery-powered devices with a form factor similar to an Apple TV unit. The ultraBeacons are quick and easy to install and have a transmission rate of one signal per second. They are powered by four AA batteries and have a battery life of five years or more.

Forkbeard is also fully compatible with Sonitor’s Sense server and the Sonitor Sense Gateways. The ultraBeacons can be installed side-by-side with Sonitor Sense location transmitters. In addition to getting corridor accuracy and room level accuracy with Lyra, healthcare facilities can also get bay and sub-bay level accuracy with Sense. All the data generated by both Sense and Forkbeard will flow seamlessly through the Sense Location Engine to 3rd party application software. System health and performance of both Forkbeard and Sense can also be monitored and managed through SenseVIEW™ software.

Key Features:

- 100 times more accurate distance estimation than BLE and always 100% room accurate
- Compatible with billions of mobile iOS, Android and Windows smart devices around the world
- Supports sophisticated workflow and safety use-cases as well as wayfinding
- Enables wayfinding with better than 2 ft. corridor accuracy at sub second update rates
- Smartphone positioning app works in the background
- Ultrasound beacon enabled positioning without data network connectivity
- Fast deployment with predictable accuracy performance
- Two-way communicating infrastructure for remote system performance supervision