Bluegiga Forums / Community Forums / Bluetooth Smart

Notifications - how do they work at a low level

Answered

Erik Shreve
asked this on May 8, 2014, 01:20

I'm trying to understand how notifications on a characteristic work at a low level. I know notifications are not guaranteed. When does the server send the notification? How many times will it send it or for how long will it repeatedly send it? If there is a notify for characteristic AAAA that was sent but AAAA has not yet been read, would the server resend the notify on AAAA if a new notify for characteristic BBBB occurred? (I would think not).

I've been looking through the BLE core spec, but haven't yet found this information.

Thanks!

One person would like this to be answered. Me too!

Comments

Greg Rowberg

Erik,

Answer

You are correct that notifications are not guaranteed. Because notifications are not acknowledged, the only way the GATT client device will see the notification from the GATT server is if the client is connected and subscribed to notifications for the characteristic in question. The GATT server will send the notification only one time, immediately after the characteristic is written. If the notification is not received at that time, it will not be sent again, and it is not buffered or queued. Your assumption is correct on your final question, as well. If notifications are enabled on characteristics AAAA and BBBB, and AAAA is written but the notification is never received, the GATT server will not resend that notification along with any further notifications.

May 8, 2014, 05:26

Add a comment

Save comment