



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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DVB HARMONIZING IPTV

Demonstration highlights latest DVB specification for the delivery of MPEG services over IP networks.

DVB work in IPTV aims to hit right degree of standardization to minimize worldwide differences.

Las Vegas – 16th April 2007 – Visitors to the DVB booth (C2239) at NAB 2007 will have the opportunity to see the latest developments in the standardization work being carried out by DVB to achieve interoperability, stimulate growth and enable greater economies of scale for the budding IPTV market. With the approval earlier this year of the specification “Transport of MPEG-2 DVB Services over IP -Based Networks”, DVB in conjunction with Thomson is demonstrating two important aspects of the specification: Error Protection and Service Discovery and Selection.

The specification provides for an optional layered protocol based on a combination of two FEC (Forward Error Correction) codes, a base layer and one or more optional enhancement layers. The demonstration will show how the reconstruction of lost packets of data is handled with optimized redundancy levels for small overheads. The scalable nature of the technology, which doesn't require a return channel, allows for low upfront deployment costs.

In the area of home networking DVB has been working to make it possible to combine different types of DVB service on a home network with the possibility of true media sharing across devices, where rights allow, within a home. The demonstration includes ‘Service Discovery and Selection’ with the acquisition of service information independent from the presentation. Visitors to the booth can also see how network operators can update service plans on the fly. This scalable solution allows for millions of subscribers and gives support to multi-provider systems.

Peter MacAvock, Executive Director, DVB Project, commented “There is a growing realization that open standards can have a positive impact on new technologies and their developing markets and that is why DVB is working to harmonize the plethora of standards in IPTV. The first phase of work carried out by DVB was to build an IPTV system widely based on proven technologies from the broadcast world. We are now

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beginning to look at a number of visions that would make the IPTV system more flexible. These include the integration of the full set of services offered by triple and quadruple play operators and addressing new types of television content distribution over IP, including open networks.”

A recent analyst report indicated that 27 million households will be watching IPTV by the end of the decade. To meet its significant potential, IPTV needs standardization. A growing list of organizations is working alongside the DVB Project to provide the IPTV world with the appropriate level of standardization. These include ATIS-IIF, DLNA, ISMA and the DSL Forum amongst others. DVB began working in this area in 2001 and has played a central role ever since.

Background

The DVB Project

The Digital Video Broadcasting Project (DVB) is an industry-led consortium of over 250 broadcasters, manufacturers, network operators, software developers, regulatory bodies and others in over 35 countries committed to designing global standards for the delivery of digital television and data services. The DVB standards cover all aspects of digital television from transmission through interfacing, conditional access and interactivity for digital video, audio and data. The consortium came together in 1993 to create unity in the march towards global standardisation, interoperability and future proofing.

To date, there are numerous broadcast services using DVB standards. There are hundreds of manufacturers offering DVB compliant equipment, which is already in use around the world. DVB dominates the digital broadcasting world. A host of other services is also on-air with DVB-T, DVB-S and DVB-C including data on the move and high-bandwidth Internet over the air. Further information about DVB can be found at: www.dvb.org.

About Thomson

World Leader in Video Technologies Thomson (Euronext: 18453 ; NYSE : TMS) provides technology, services, and systems and equipment to help its media & entertainment clients - content creators, content distributors and users of its technology - realize their business goals and optimize their performance in a rapidly changing technology environment. The Group is the preferred partner to the media & entertainment industries through its Technicolor, Grass Valley, RCA and Thomson brands. For more information: <http://www.thomson.net>.

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