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LAUNCH OF DVB-T2

World's Most Advanced DTT System Provides Extra Capacity For Multichannel HDTV & Other Services

Amsterdam – 12 September 2008 – IBC 2008 sees the official launch of the latest addition to the DVB family of open standards, DVB-T2 – a second generation transmission system for digital terrestrial television. The specification is the result of the co-operation of more than 60 DVB member organisations that actively contributed to create the most advanced DTT system based on carefully considered commercial requirements that include an increase in capacity and improved robustness.

The specification introduces the latest modulation and coding techniques to enable the highly efficient use of valuable terrestrial spectrum for the delivery of audio, video and data services to fixed, portable and mobile devices.

Building on the foundations of the successful DVB-T system, DVB-T2 promises a 30% to 50% increase in capacity in equivalent reception conditions. Broadcasters deploying DVB-T2 will be able to roll out new multiplexes that could offer multichannel HDTV services and create innovative new datacasting opportunities.

“DVB-T2 takes advantage of the latest technological developments to reach theoretical performance limits for digital terrestrial broadcasting,” said Peter MacAvock, Executive Director, DVB. “With the launch of DVB-T2, DVB remains at the vanguard of DTV technology with a family of open standards that forms the basis of the majority of the world’s digital broadcasting systems”.

In line with DVB’s aim to provide a coherent body of standards, DVB-T2 uses OFDM (orthogonal frequency division multiplex) modulation to deliver a robust signal and offers a range of different modes making it highly flexible. It employs the same LDPC (Low Density Parity Check) error correcting codes used in DVB-S2 for excellent performance in the presence of high noise levels and interference. A significant number of highly innovative features such as Physical Layer Pipes, support of Multiple-Input-Single-Output (MISO) and Rotated Constellations are also included. DVB-T2 has been defined so that the standard can be enhanced in the future in a backwards compatible manner through the use of Future Extension Frames.

Launch Of DVB-T2

The specification is currently with ETSI (European Telecommunications Standards Institute) for formal standardisation and has been published on DVB's website as BlueBook A122.

Vendors are already working on the development of DVB-T2 equipment and some of the first prototypes are being demonstrated at this year's IBC exhibition in Amsterdam on the DVB stand (1.D81).

The official IBC conference programme features a session "Open standards, technology and implementation - in association with DVB" which will include an introduction to DVB-T2 on Monday 15 September.

Background

The DVB Project

The Digital Video Broadcasting Project (DVB) is an industry-led consortium of over 280 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, www.dvb-h.org, www.mhp.org and www.dvbworld.org.

DVB is a registered trademark of the DVB Project.