

Affordable Wireless Coverage, Minimal Energy Consumption

European Standardization Body ETSI Publishes “System Reference Document” TR 103102 on nP2M Technology

Berlin, 09/2013. ETSI, the European Telecommunications Standards Institute, has just published an official document on narrow-band point-to-multipoint (nP2M) technology. The “System Reference Document” TR 103 102 describes the technical requirements of nP2M and the necessity – and hence the potential market – of this technology.

Narrow-band point-to-multipoint communication by means of nP2M makes applications possible that cannot be realised using other technologies. nP2M is very economical in its energy and spectrum requirements. Its narrow bandwidth in particular makes this technology well suited to provide uniform nationwide or even European coverage for alerting and information services. The frequencies to be used are in the 430–470 MHz band, near the bands used for digital radio communication by emergency service agencies in Europe. This has advantages, such as the possibility of combined terminal equipment, for example.

Frequency Bands for nP2M-technology

The system reference document TR 103 102 that has now been added to the ETSI library documents the necessity of providing at least one and if possible more Europe-wide harmonized frequency bands of at least 150 kHz. CEPT, the umbrella organization of 48 European countries’ regulating authorities, including the German Federal Network Agency, is currently discussing the form in which the ETSI recommendation of providing frequency bands for nP2M technology will be adopted in its documents. The CEPT frequency management working group (WG FM) will handle the issue at its Venice meeting in early October.

ETSI envisions applications of nP2M technology mainly in the following areas:

- General public information (including weather stations)
- “Green” applications, that is, those oriented towards sustainable use of natural resources
- Prompt population warning for the following target groups: households, education, industry, first responders such as rescue services and firefighters.

In August 2012, the e*Message Group was assigned appropriate frequencies in the 400 MHz band, some of them adjacent, until at least 2025. Today the specialized mobile wireless network operator already

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provides nP2M applications in the 400 MHz band in both France and Germany. For example, several million households receive dynamically updated weather information for their region for several days in advance, displayed by battery-operated wireless weather stations.

Link to the ETSI document TR 103 102:

http://www.etsi.org/deliver/etsi_tr/103100_103199/103102/01.01.01_60/tr_103102v010101p.pdf

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ETSI: European Telecommunications Standards Institute

The non-profit institution was founded in 1988 at the initiative of the European Commission, and is the European Union's officially recognized organization for European standardization. ETSI's goal is to create standards that are applicable worldwide for information and communication technologies. ETSI's members include more than 700 organizations in 62 countries, including network operators, service providers, government agencies, users and manufacturers. ETSI is the successor organization to the Conférence Européenne des Administrations des Postes et des Télécommunications (CEPT), the umbrella organization founded in 1959 to promote cooperation among the regulating authorities of 48 European countries, with headquarters in Copenhagen. ETSI's headquarters is in Sophia Antipolis in southern France. www.etsi.org

e*Message Wireless Information Services GmbH (e*Message Europe)

e*Message Europe, with subsidiaries in Germany and France, is the leader in the European continental paging market and owns and operates its own independent networks. The e*Message group provides the services e*BOS, e*Cityruf, Alphapage*, e*Warn and more over its own paging networks. These services are used by hundreds of thousands of individuals, government agencies, institutions and companies. e*Message constantly transfers innovative ideas to existing and new services. e*Message Europe was founded and acquired the paging operations of Deutsche Telekom AG and France Télécom in 2000, and has been developing them continuously ever since. The group's national operating centers are in Berlin and Paris. Since 2005 e*Message has also been the operator of e*Dispatch, a powerful trunked radio network for voice and data in the Berlin–Brandenburg region.