Industry's First Mobile WiMAX Functional Protocol Monitoring Tool Launched by Tektronix

K1297-G35 WiMAX Solution Enables Time-to-Market Reduction in Development of Mobile Radio Access Products

PRNewswire-FirstCall
BEAVERTON, Ore.

Tektronix, Inc. , a worldwide provider of communications network management and diagnostics solutions, announced the availability of the K1297-G35 WiMAX solution, the telecommunications industry's first protocol monitoring platform for functional testing of Mobile WiMAX radio access products that are based on the IEEE 802.16e standard. All indications from the network equipment development labs confirm that the Tektronix K1297-G35 WiMAX protocol monitoring solution will significantly decrease time-to-market as manufacturers of Mobile WiMAX access networks seek to dominate the burgeoning space.

"As network equipment manufacturers and operators consider Mobile WiMAX for reliable high-bandwidth wireless data networks, Tektronix is well- positioned to enable them to deliver mobile multimedia applications and services to subscribers on a mass scale," said Arif Kareem, Vice President, Network Diagnostics, Tektronix. "We lead the market in mobile protocol testing with our dependable network diagnostics products, which assure the highest levels of service quality for WiMAX and other broadband network technologies as they near deployment."

With the increasing momentum of Mobile WiMAX over the last year, network operators have begun charting their plans for deploying mobile broadband networks. Tektronix' WiMAX protocol monitoring solution is the only one of its kind and has already proven its value in equipment manufacturer labs. To ensure compliance with industry standards and further demonstrate its market leadership, Tektronix has become a member of the WiMAX Forum, an industry-led organization dedicated to certifying the compatibility and interoperability of fixed and Mobile WiMAX products.

"Tektronix' WiMAX protocol monitoring solution is a significant milestone because it is the first of its kind to enable equipment manufacturers to bring Mobile WiMAX radio access equipment out of the labs and into live networks," said Jeff Orr, Director of Marketing for the WiMAX Forum™. "We are encouraged to see a leading 3G test and measurement company such as Tektronix focusing its efforts on Mobile WiMAX. It's just one more indicator that this technology is on an accelerated path for widespread deployment."

Tektronix' flexible testing platform can be configured to operate with any wireless protocol to help network equipment manufacturers and operators achieve true "any-to-any" device or network connectivity. Over the years, Tektronix' mobile testing and monitoring products have enabled the transition from 2G to 3G with the consistent introduction of first-to-market applications for GPRS, EDGE and UMTS networks. The company is doing the same for next- generation wireless networks by introducing first-to-market Mobile WiMAX protocol monitoring solutions to enable evolution of broadband wireless technology beyond 3G.

K1297-G35 WiMAX Features

Taking advantage of the WiMAX base station monitoring port, which is typically an Ethernet connection, the G35-WiMAX can access the IEEE 802.16e MAC protocol of the R1 interface (which is the interface between the user equipment and the base station), without the limitations of RF tools. In addition, from the monitoring port, the interface between the MAC and physical layer of the air interface is also accessible, providing full visibility of protocol traffic exchanged at the air interface. G35-WiMAX supports protocol

decode of one or multiple R1 interfaces and is time-synchronized.

In addition, G35-WiMAX provides a correlation between the WiMAX access gateway and the WiMAX base station -- the link known as R6. While R6 is a proprietary protocol, Tektronix is able to customize the decoding engine based on the specification of different vendors.

Based on these simultaneous user and control plane tests, equipment manufacturers are able to gain quality of service (QoS) insight and proof that the base station is meeting its promised specifications from the access gateway to the end user device, such as a WiMAX-enabled laptop. This reduces time-to-market for equipment manufacturers.

Tektronix also recently announced a partnership with LitePoint to collaborate on a new RF test toolset for WiMAX end user devices and base stations. (Please see Oct. 4 release, "Tektronix and LitePoint Collaborate on World's Most Powerful WiMAX Test Solution".) With this latest announcement on the industry's first Mobile WiMAX protocol monitoring tool, Tektronix has extended its WiMAX value proposition from end user devices into operator networks to include RF and non-RF test solutions. As a member of the WiMAX Forum, Tektronix participated at the WiMAX Forum Member Conference in Seoul, Korea, October 17-20, providing demonstrations of the new protocol monitoring solution.

Tektronix' G35-WiMAX solution is based on its K1297-G35 mobile protocol test platform. This platform provides HSDPA and HSUPA testing capabilities and 2G and 3G functional test applications, enabling investment protection and technology risk reduction. Learn more about Tektronix' communications test, measurement and network monitoring solutions by visiting the company's Web site at www.tek.com/communications.

About Tektronix

Tektronix is a leading supplier of test, measurement, and monitoring products, solutions and services for the communications, computer, and semiconductor industries -- as well as military/aerospace, consumer electronics, education and a broad range of other industries worldwide. With 60 years of experience, Tektronix enables its customers to design, build, deploy, and manage next-generation global communications networks, advanced and pervasive technologies. Headquartered in Beaverton, Oregon, Tektronix has operations in 19 countries worldwide. Tektronix' Web address is www.tektronix.com.

Tektronix provides network operators and equipment manufacturers a comprehensive and unparalleled suite of network diagnostics and management solutions for fixed, mobile, IP and converged multi-service networks. These solutions support such architectures and applications as fixed mobile convergence, broadband wireless access and triple play services, including IPTV.

NOTE: Tektronix is a registered trademark of Tektronix, Inc. All other trade names referenced are the service marks, trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies.

First Call Analyst:
FCMN Contact: beth.p.woodward@tektronix.com

SOURCE: Tektronix, Inc.

CONTACT: Carol DeMatteo, +1-469-330-4588, or carol.dematteo@tek.com

Web site: http://www.tektronix.com/

http://news.tektronix.com/2006-10-24-Industrys-First-Mobile-WiMAX-Functional-Protocol-Monitoring-Tool-Launched-by-Tektronix