



Press Release

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7 layers and TTPCom test the market

In a move that underlines their strong commitment to design, development and testing within the telecoms equipment market, 7 layers AG and TTPCom Ltd have joined forces to establish a new independent test facility in the UK. An aggressive launch plan will see the new company operational in the UK by February 2001.

The co-operation of these 2 leading players in the telecommunications field combines over 20 years of development and testing experience within the wireless communications industry. Dr Tony Milbourn, Managing Director of TTPCom said, "With this new facility we aim to offer a truly comprehensive service to our customers right through software development, hardware integration, to a fully tested and market ready product. We have complete faith in our technology and by working with 7 layers to establish this test facility we are underlining our commitment to a credible, testable product and to supporting our customers wholeheartedly".

The test facility will offer significant benefits to development organisations, manufacturers and network operators looking for a comprehensive test service that enables a fast time to market. The new company will be based in Melbourn, Cambridge, at the very heart of third generation (3G) development in the UK. In addition to the full range of accredited test services based on the leading wireless technologies of GSM, GPRS and Bluetooth, the joint venture

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will offer testing consultancy from product concept through to product launch. By working closely with customers through development, approvals and field trials, the test centre will enable its customers to identify and correct problems as early as possible - this ensures that only reliable, robust products enter the market.

TTPCom has 13 years of development experience in the digital wireless sector and with almost 40 Type Approved terminals using TTPCom's IP, the company is well established as a world-leading supplier of wireless communications technology. In addition to software TTPCom licenses chip designs to semiconductor manufacturers such as Analog Devices Inc. and Hitachi Ltd. and in fact offers a turnkey handset for manufacturers who want to bring a product to market without the risk of development. Products with the company's GPRS technology are due to reach market in early 2001 and the company is actively involved in 3G developments.

7 layers has an equally strong heritage within the wireless technology market. Engineers at the company have over 10 years experience of supporting GSM terminal and infrastructure manufacturers as well as GSM operators and service providers. The company offers services for the 2.5 generation technologies such as GPRS, HSCSD and EDGE plus development of test solutions for 3G. Furthermore 7 layers is a leading co-designer of the Bluetooth™ test and qualification program and through its Bluetooth Qualification Bodies is authorised to list products on the Bluetooth Qualified Products List.

Dr. Hans-Jürgen Meckelburg, member of the Board of 7 layers sees strong synergy in the co-operation and stated "one of the main issues in the GSM world today is that much of the development testing has to be done in co-operation with network infrastructure manufacturers and operators. For the Bluetooth world one of the most important factors is securing the compliance to the Bluetooth standard and the interoperability of products from various manufacturers. By using the strengths of 7 layers and TTPCom we will be able to offer all players in the market a sophisticated test service that develops as the market moves towards future wireless technology".

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About TTPCom Ltd.

Based in Cambridge, UK, TTPCom is one of the world's leading independent suppliers of digital cellular technology for mobile phones. TTPCom is working continuously to develop software that meets the ever-changing needs of wireless networks – our latest products support multi-slot GPRS, WAP, voice recognition, Tegic T9™ predictive text input and Bluetooth. TTPCom has co-operated with Analog Devices for many years on the production of baseband chipsets. On radio chipsets TTPCom works in partnership with Hitachi and offers complete designs for RF solutions based on the BRIGHT family. TTPCom technology is used in approximately 25% of the world's current production of mobile phones. The first component of our 3G programme includes a dual-mode 3GPP/GSM protocol stack. In addition, TTPCom offers complete turnkey designs for GSM handsets.

For more information, visit TTPCom's website at <http://www.ttpcom.com>.

About 7 Layers AG

7 layers supports the developers and manufacturers of new communications technologies from technology development right through to qualification of chipsets, software, modules or end-user products. 7 layers runs its clients and its own test laboratories, using the most modern testing techniques and test solutions. 7 layers organises laboratories by automating the complete test process and by keeping them constantly up to the latest standards. 7 layers' solutions integrate independent testing into the product and service development process, thereby saving both time and money.

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