



Press Release

Alcatel Announces Qualification for Most Complete Bluetooth™ Solution

Alcatel Baseband Qualification paves way to adhoc-networking capability through Bluetooth™ technology

Brussels, Belgium, January 24th, 2002 – Alcatel (Paris: CGEP.PA and NYSE: ALA) announced today that its' Bluetooth™ Baseband chip, the MTC-60180, has received Bluetooth™ qualification.

The Alcatel Baseband is the world's first chip with such complete V1.1 Bluetooth™ functionality that has been qualified by the Bluetooth™ Qualification Body (BQB), the body overseeing the compatibility of Bluetooth™ devices. Functionalities such as full data rate potential, point-to-multipoint – for piconets where a Bluetooth™-enabled device talks to several other devices – and scatternet capability, allow equipment manufacturers to develop Bluetooth™-enabled devices that can offer the ad-hoc networking capability to all kind of electronic devices.

Qualification of the MTC-60180 was performed by 7 layers, a Bluetooth™ Qualification Test Facility in Germany. The qualification process demonstrated that Alcatel's test data comply with the requirements defined by the Bluetooth™ Special Interest Group. The Alcatel Baseband combined with a radio of an Alcatel Partner – with a reference design kit available- , provides a complete pre-tested and qualified solution to customers. This reduces the time-to-market for all new applications. Alcatel's MTC-60180 was qualified for the most extensive list of functionalities uptil now , and has been added to the Bluetooth™ Qualified Products List (QPL) on the Bluetooth Qualification Program website, <http://qualweb.bluetooth.org>

Andreas Grünwaldt from 7 layers stated: "More than 50% of all Bluetooth™ chips qualified uptil today, are done at 7 layers, – Baseband chips as well as complete solutions up to HCI. The Alcatel Baseband offers a comprehensive variety of functionalities - including Piconet and Scatternet capabilities – and will therefore be an important step to make Bluetooth™ the wireless technology of choice."

The MTC-60180 evaluation kit, available for several radio chips on the market, includes the evaluation board with radio and baseband, all necessary evaluation software, full documentation as well as a headphone for audio testing.

Alcatel designs and manufactures leading-edge system-on-chip (SoC) solutions for telecom equipment manufacturers, various application specific standard products (ASSPs) and application-specific integrated circuits (ASICs) for automotive and peripheral customers. Alcatel is the number one supplier of ADSL chipsets worldwide and is the fourth largest semiconductor supplier in Europe, with 28 offices worldwide. More information about Alcatel's semiconductor solutions can be found on:
<http://www.alcatel.com/microelectronics>

About Alcatel

Alcatel builds next generation networks and the chips that power them, delivering integrated end-to-end voice and data communications solutions to established and new carriers, as well as enterprises and consumers worldwide. With 110,000 employees and sales of EURO 27 billion in 2000, Alcatel operates in more than 130 countries. For more information visit the Alcatel website at:
<http://www.alcatel.com/microelectronics>

About 7 layers

7 layers is an engineering company for the wireless communications industry with broad expertise in development, testing and qualification for Bluetooth, GSM and other wireless technologies. The services range from optimization of technology and product development to customized solutions for testing with the help of our InterLab[®] system to worldwide qualification. The InterLab[®] system stands for highly cost effective, professional testing and gives everybody involved in the test process easy access to all information and support necessary. 7 layers is a BQTF and has BQB's in Germany and USA.

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