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TEN YEARS OF INNOVATION

DVB Celebrates Tenth Anniversary at IBC

Amsterdam – 12 September – At this year's IBC, DVB is celebrating ten years of creating standards that have formed the backbone for cable, satellite and terrestrial digital transmissions around the world. The DVB Project provided the forum for gathering the major television interests into one group to develop a complete set of digital television standards based on a unified approach. Ten years on DVB is globally the most important force in the on-going development of the digital broadcasting world which now boasts over one hundred million digital homes worldwide.

Today, there are forty-five DVB created standards/specifications that are published by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute and a further twenty implementation guidelines. The successful work of the DVB Project is demonstrated in the fact that DVB-S, the specification for digital satellite and DVB-C, the specification for digital cable systems, are available and in use on every continent. The standard for digital terrestrial television, DVB-T, goes from strength to strength and is highlighted by the recent overnight switch from analogue to digital in Berlin, the one hundred thousand a month take-up in the United Kingdom, and the rapid deployment of services in other countries around the world. For example, the mobile capabilities of DVB-T are employed in Singapore for the public transport system to provide customer information. The robust nature of DVB-T has led to its use in the United States to provide information and images to police and fire and rescue services. In fact, DVB is at the centre of all successful digital television systems.

The Multimedia Home Platform (MHP), which enables interactive services, is rapidly become a global standard. The creation of the GEM (Globally Executable MHP) specification provides a means of ensuring that MHP applications can be carried over networks other than DVB.

More recently, DVB has embarked on the DVB 2.0 concept, facilitating access to DVB based content regardless of which network it may be found on. DVB has now completed work on the future-proof DVB-S2 specification that offers a thirty percent capacity increase under the same transmission conditions, a more robust reception for the same spectrum efficiency and is specified for five different types of satellite broadband applications. Technical work also continues on a number of other projects including DVB-H (DVB-Handheld) that will enable DVB services to advanced mobile devices.

Ten Years Of Innovation

Theo Peek, Chairman of the DVB Steering Board commenting on the tenth anniversary said “Through the intense cooperation of all participants in the broadcast value chain the DVB has become the leader in the world as a specifying body for standards that are based on market requirements. I like to extend my congratulations to all the DVB members on this remarkable achievement. Happy anniversary DVB.”

Background

The DVB Project

The Digital Video Broadcasting Project (DVB) is an industry-led consortium of over 250 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.

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