

Cambridge Broadband Networks releases VectaStar Next Generation

Enables operators to cost-effectively and rapidly build-out next generation mobile broadband IP networks

Cambridge, UK, 12 February 2009: Cambridge Broadband Networks Limited has released the latest evolution of its VectaStar platform, VectaStar Next Generation. The new product is the world's highest performance point-to-multipoint (PMP) microwave platform and gives operators unprecedented flexibility to build sustainable IP backhaul solutions for their current and future mobile broadband networks. VectaStar is a mature IP Backhaul solution for cellular networks, having been deployed as a 3G IP RAN backhaul solution since 2003.

Cambridge Broadband Networks has been working with its customers since the introduction of mobile broadband to build flexible backhaul networks, delivering innovations that have enabled its customers to seize opportunities and turn them into competitive advantages. These innovations included the deployment of first all-IP backhaul network in 2003, integration of Abis optimisation in 2005, implementation of statistical multiplexing over-the-air on a PMP HSPA backhaul network in 2007, and now announcing the highest throughput PMP microwave solution to date with the capacity to backhaul a network of 20MHz, 2x2 MIMO LTE Basestations.

VectaStar's PMP architecture and hitless Adaptive Coding Modulation (ACM) uses precious spectrum resources efficiently, dynamically allocating bandwidth when and where it is needed in the sector; improving QoS and reducing traffic bottlenecks. VectaStar's ACM gracefully manages link quality during adverse conditions ensuring that applications such as Voice and high-priority data continue to receive 'five-nines' link availability. Network-edge IP optimisation improves efficiency further. VectaStar also reduces by 50 percent the number of microwave radios required and its radiohead design eliminates the need for additional indoor units. This contributes to a significant reduction in CAPEX and OPEX, complexity and energy consumption.

“With less than 700 days until the first LTE networks start serving customers, transmission planners are running out of time to make key architectural decisions about their next generation backhaul networks. Traditional microwave design processes dimension the backhaul network for peak throughput requirements – this is an inefficient approach that wastes limited space, power and radio spectrum. VectaStar goes further by leveraging the peak-to-mean characteristics of packet mobile broadband to the operator’s advantage – using statistical multiplexing and optimisation to extend precious resources. We partner with our customers to build some of the most advanced packet data backhaul networks in the world. The best-in-class performance of VectaStar Next Generation enables us to continue this work as they address the challenges of planning their HSPA+ and LTE evolution” said John Naylor, Head of Research and Development.

Graham Peel, Cambridge Broadband Networks CEO added, “VectaStar Next Generation with its PMP architecture is the perfect solution for operators considering a microwave overlay strategy to backhaul their mobile broadband traffic. Any operator who builds a VectaStar HSPA backhaul overlay network today basically gets their LTE backhaul network for free!”

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About Cambridge Broadband Networks

Cambridge Broadband Networks (www.cbnl.com), a member of the Next Generation Mobile Network Alliance (NGMN), provides telecommunications operators with carrier-class wireless point-to-multipoint transmission equipment. The company’s unique approach to backhaul means that its technology provides operators with a highly compelling business case, reducing backhaul costs by up to 60%. To date, Cambridge Broadband Networks products have been commercially deployed and technically proven in more than 30 countries, and the company continues to expand into new geographical markets as wireless networks become more widespread throughout the world. Privately-held, Cambridge Broadband Networks has headquarters in Cambridge, UK, with offices in Malaysia and South Africa and manufacturing facilities in China.

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