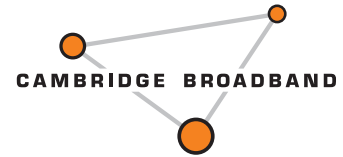


Media information



Cambridge Broadband and the University of Cambridge Sign Broadband Fixed Wireless Research Contract

Study will enable design of more effective and efficient broadband systems

Cambridge, UK, July 2 2001: Cambridge Broadband and the University of Cambridge department of engineering today announced the signing of a research contract to measure and model the Broadband Fixed Wireless Access radio propagation environment. The results of the study will enable BFWA systems to be deployed more effectively, enhancing both coverage and capacity.

The research contract is valued at approximately £150,000 and will be carried out by a Senior Research Associate and a number of research students in the Engineering Department's Laboratory for Communications Engineering (LCE). The investigation will include detailed computer modelling, the analytical study of propagation phenomena and the application of statistically-based modelling.

Cambridge Broadband will supply its revolutionary VectaStar 3500 system to facilitate the research. The VectaStar units can deliver data rates of up to 60 MBPS full duplex per user over a range of up to 20 km in non-line-of-sight environments. The units will enable detailed long-term monitoring of the propagation phenomena to be performed.

Ian Wassell, Lecturer in the LCE explains that rationale behind the research: "Most propagation research to date has concerned mobile systems using relatively low bit rates. This scenario is not appropriate when we are considering the propagation from fixed locations with data rates of at least an order of magnitude greater. This project will enable some of the uncertainties of broadband fixed wireless propagation to be eliminated, facilitating the rapid deployment of large scale BFWA networks ."

Steve Greaves, Head of Systems Research at Cambridge Broadband concludes: "We are delighted to be assisting such a prestigious and well-respected institution in its research. The development team at Cambridge Broadband and the LCE have been active in the area of broadband fixed wireless access for a number of years. Collaborative research of this nature pools the expertise of the academic and industrial sectors and benefits them both."

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About Cambridge Broadband:

Cambridge Broadband has an experienced team with a strong record of successful innovation in broadband fixed wireless equipment. Founded in January 2000, the company is focussed on delivering high quality multi-service networks with the best price-performance in bands up to 11 GHz for licence holders worldwide. For more details please visit www.cambridgebroadband.com

About the Laboratory for Communications Engineering (LCE):

The LCE was set-up by Professor Andy Hopper in 1997 and it undertakes research encompassing a broad range of communications and computer applications technology. Work in the area of broadband fixed wireless access (BFWA) systems is led by Dr. Ian Wassell who supervises a number of research students engaged in related activities. The LCE was previously involved in the deployment of a first generation BFWA system in Cambridge and is an acknowledged leader in this area. For more details please visit www-lce.eng.cam.ac.uk

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