



Organized Special Session

Digital Switchover and Spectrum Dividend: Paving the way towards a broadband access Fusion environment at INC 2005

Final Call for Papers

Despite, the intrinsic technological differences between Telecommunications and Broadcasting sectors, a notion of convergence has been lately achieved not only at technological level, but also at service level, that was mainly empowered by the evolution of the Digital Video Broadcasting (DVB) standard, the recent advances in fixed and mobile telecommunication technologies, and by the work carried out at international level in the field of 'Interactive Broadcasting'. A DVB platform is not only a medium to broadcast "bouquets" of TV programmes to a large number of viewers distributed over large geographical areas; its intrinsic characteristic to combine MPEG-2 TV programmes and IP services into the same transport stream, along with the large coverage area and high bit rate capabilities, allow DVB to constitute a networking infrastructure, that is able to interconnect distribution nodes, which provide connectivity to end-users via various types of access networks (i.e. GSM UMTS, WLANs, XDSL etc.).

The vision, however, for such a Fusion environment, enabling interoperability and providing synergy among the Media, Internet and Telecommunication sectors, requires not only further technical, scientific research and development efforts at international level, but also, and most predominant, legal and political actions to be taken at national (and/or regional) level mainly focused on the proper transition from analogue to digital broadcasting (Digital Switchover – DSO). Such a transition, especially in the terrestrial broadcasting, which takes into account the local and networking aspect of the new television and exploits the resulting Spectrum Dividend, may pave the way towards the successful deployment of Information Society mainly in the less developed regions and rural areas. Specifically, the proper adoption of DSO and the felicitous exploitation of the resulting Spectrum Dividend can enable the realization of a neutral broadband access infrastructure that accommodates not only existing TV broadcasters and 3G/B3G operators, but also any potential content/services provider and active user/citizen (stemming from custom users) who creates, manipulates and distributes his own content to the entire infrastructure, maintaining therefore the concept of "public commodity" for the UHF frequency band.

The session is expected to concentrate knowledge by delving into issues that are related to a field with great scientific, technological, legal, economic, business, cultural and social implications. Thus, it is expected that it will be of interest to the general body of conference participants and draw the attention of an audience much broader than the prospective authors. Topics of the session include, but are not limited to:

- IP over DVB
- Interactive Broadcasting
- Digital Multimedia Broadcasting (DMB)
- Spectrum Dividend in UHF
- Media and Telecom synergy
- DVB and Broadband Access
- Neutral, open and scalable DVB architectures
- DVB mobility, security and Quality of Service
- Performance and evaluation of DVB access networks
- Legal and political issues for the DSO

Important dates

Manuscript submission: **February 1, 2005**
Notification of review results: March 4, 2005
Camera ready paper: March 20, 2005
Authors' registration: March 25, 2004
Conference dates: July 5-7, 2005

Venue

Doryssa Bay Resort,
Samos Island, Greece
<http://www.doryssa-bay.gr/>

Submission information

Authors are invited to submit their full papers by email directly to the session organizers, by February the 1st, 2005. The total length of the paper should not exceed eight pages, including all figures, tables and references. A comprehensive set of instructions for preparing camera ready papers can be found on the INC2005-FORMAT.pdf file available at [<http://www.inc2005.org/INC2005-FORMAT.pdf>]. Please refer to this before submission. Please use Microsoft Word, or Rich Text Format.

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