

Ericsson demonstrates HiperLAN2 prototypes

Ericsson has successfully demonstrated a Wireless LAN network built on prototypes based on the HiperLAN2 standard, thereby taking yet another important step to strengthen the mobile Internet offer.

HiperLAN2 is the next generation Wireless LAN standard, operating in the 5 GHz frequency band, allowing data rates up to 54 Mbps.

A cost-efficient chipset, with ASICS designed and developed by Ericsson, has been used to build a PC-card sized client terminal and an Access Point, both having the same form factor as the commercial products to be released.

Ericsson engineers have succeeded in building a radio covering the whole frequency range of 455 MHz that is available for HiperLAN2 compliant products in Europe. The output power is 200 mW EIRP, fulfilling the HiperLAN2 specifications.

The radio uses Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplex (OFDM), which is a radio technology ideal for broadband applications in highly dispersive radio environments, where multiple reflections could cause delay spread and severe degradation of radio performance. A Link Adaptation scheme that optimizes the transmission speed according to existing radio conditions is also part of the radio features.

The HiperLAN2 Medium Access Control (MAC) -layer is developed and optimized for radio communication and realizes new features such as Quality of Service (QoS) for real-time multimedia applications and very efficient power save control.

A key feature offered by the HiperLAN2 standard is Dynamic Frequency Selection (DFS), realizing Automatic Frequency Planning that greatly simplifies the radio network installation and expansion. This feature is included in the Ericsson prototypes.

Furthermore, HiperLAN2 defines a Convergence Layer, offering backbone network independence by allowing for interoperability with not only Ethernet, but also with IEEE1394 Firewire and the third generation mobile systems (3G).

Wireless LANs are today often used in enterprises as a wireless Ethernet extension. This market is expected to grow significantly within the next few years and deployment of Wireless LANs is also moving into selected public areas such as hotels, airports etc.

The increasing demand for bandwidth to support multimedia applications also makes HiperLAN2 a very strong candidate in wireless home networking, due to its unique capabilities to handle real time multimedia over wireless.

Laptops or PDAs using HiperLAN2 technology will then become truly mobile, providing the user with untethered access to the corporate network, the Internet or virtually any type of wireless network, offering seamless interoperation between these different network environments.

Ericsson is the leading communications supplier, combining innovation in mobility and Internet in creating the new era of mobile Internet. Ericsson provides total solutions covering everything from systems and applications to mobile phones and other communications tools. With more than 100,000 employees in 140 countries, Ericsson simplifies communications for customers all over the world.

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