MEDIA RELEASE

RFS base station antenna options supports fast track 3G deployment

The widest range of 3G-ready cellular base station antennas will be showcased by RF technology leader Radio Frequency Systems (RFS) at the CeBIT Fair in March 2001. The new antenna range will include a broad selection of antenna options including cross-polarised UMTS-only, broadband, dual-band and the world’s first 3G-enabled tri-band antenna.

According to RFS’s Strategic Marketing Manager, Pierre Clavel, the prime objective in the development of the RFS 3G antenna range was to provide carriers the widest selection of 3G base station solutions.

“Ensuring we had the best antenna selection to underpin optimal base station solution flexibility was a key aim here,” Clavel pointed out. “Simply consider the broad range of carrier scenarios right here in Europe. Each carrier faces his or her own unique range of deployment challenges--there is no point pretending that one ‘universal’ base station solution will fill all requirements. Having a suite of solutions to select from is the vital element in realising speedy 3G deployment.”

To achieve this level of flexibility, RFS has produced the world’s most comprehensive range of 3G base station antenna solutions. The range includes a family of cross-polarised UMTS-only antennas, a broadband two-connector antenna for the DCS market (future proof solutions) and a series of four-connector dual-band DCS/UMTS antennas.

Known as ‘antenna à la carte’, the DCS/UMTS dual-band series is fully customer-configurable, comprising any combination of the company’s existing 65 degree DCS and UMTS antenna family, fitted within a conventional DCS antenna-sized radome. The ‘antenna à la carte’ series provides up to 18 dBi gain and is available with any combination of fixed electrical tilt or variable electrical tilt.

The company can also offer a wide selection of dual-band cross-polarised GSM 900/UMTS antennas, again in a form factor identical to that of conventional GSM 900 antennas and providing a gain up to 16 dBi. As with the DCS/UMTS ‘antenna à la carte’, the RFS GSM 900/UMTS dual-band antennas can be provided with any combination of fixed or variable electrical tilt.
Previewed at CeBIT Fair 2001 will be an RFS innovation—a triple band 3G-ready base station antenna. Supporting UMTS, DCS 1800 and GSM 900 services from a single radome, this revolutionary antenna has been commercially deployed in Spain and the United Kingdom, and will soon be deployed in Italy. “This is a world’s first,” enthused Clavel. “A three times fixed tilt antenna in the same form factor as our dual-band antenna. The main area we see these being deployed is by operators currently operating dual-band GSM/DCS networks and having constraint of site acquisition.”

RFS’s comprehensive range of 3G-ready base station antenna solutions will be exhibited at the March 2001 CeBIT Fair in Hannover, with technology experts on-hand to advise on antenna options and deployment strategies. Visit RFS at the CeBIT Fair, stand No.F36, Hall 26, Hannover Exhibition Grounds, Hannover, Germany, 22 to 28 March 2001.

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ILLUSTRATION CAPTION:

Company Background
Radio Frequency Systems is a global designer and manufacturer of antenna and cable systems and RF subassemblies, providing total-package solutions for wireless infrastructure.

RFS serves operators, OEMs, distributors and system integrators in the broadcast, cellular, land-mobile and microwave market sectors. As an ISO compliant organization with manufacturing and customer service facilities that span the globe, RFS offers cutting-edge engineering capabilities, superior field support and innovative product design. RFS is a leader in wireless communications.

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