

RFS to Share its Evolved, 5G-Optimized Active Passive Antenna and Futureproof Upgrade Strategy at MWC19

RFS' modular Active Passive Antenna (APA) directly addresses the real-world challenges operators face as they evolve to 5G



Munich, February 21, 2019 – Radio Frequency Systems (RFS), a global designer and manufacturer of total-package solutions for wireless and broadcast infrastructure, today announced that it will feature an Active Passive Antenna (APA) that is designed for the real-world challenges of 5G rollouts at MWC19 Barcelona. The evolved APA features a modular architecture that allows mobile operators to deploy any RFS passive antenna today then seamlessly upgrade the antenna with active components when the time is right with no impact on either the passive or active aspects of antenna performance. The APA that RFS will feature at MWC19 is a more advanced version of the antenna the company launched at MWC18.

Plug-and-play antenna architecture simplifies and cuts costs for 5G evolution

RFS' APA combines the passive components needed for legacy frequency transmissions with the active components needed for 3.5 GHz mMIMO transmissions in 5G networks in a single antenna. The main challenge associated with the interleaved architecture used in the APA is ensuring that frequency duplex division (FDD) transmissions that use passive components and time division duplex (TDD) transmissions that use active components do not interfere with one other and degrade performance.

RFS' evolved APA has been extensively tested and optimized to ensure the interleaved architecture does not affect the functionality or performance of either the passive or the active components in the antenna.

In addition, the antenna features a modular, plug-and-play architecture that allows mobile operators to immediately deploy RFS passive FDD antennas, then add active TDD transmission capabilities in the future without changing the appearance, size or tower leasing costs of the original antenna.

"We understand that mobile operators need the ability to easily evolve to 5G without doubling the number of antennas on already-crowded macro sites or increasing leasing costs," says Herbert Merz, President and CEO at RFS. "With our futureproof FUSION implementation, operators have a very cost-effective and practical strategy for 5G evolution. They can deploy our passive antennas today, then upgrade them as required to support 3.5 GHz mMIMO and smoothly evolve to a 5G future with no compromises to performance, no additional leasing costs and the lowest visual impact on the market."

→ "With our futureproof FUSION implementation, operators can upgrade our passive antennas to support 3.5 GHz mMIMO with no compromises to performance, no additional leasing costs and the lowest visual impact on the market"



APAs offer numerous benefits

Fully interleaved APAs give operators a number of key advantages as they evolve their networks to 5G. These all-in-one antennas:

- Simplify addition and ease maintenance or upgrade of mMIMO systems on existing crowded macro sites
- Minimize visual impact and total cost of ownership (TCO)
- Ensure excellent RF performance for FDD and TDD transmissions
- Leverage shared chassis and RF components to minimize weight compared to other options
- Require no additional antennas in a sector
- Use passive antenna volume and a mechanical frame to enable an efficient thermal management system, resulting in a more robust and reliable system
- Minimize additional operating expenditure (OPEX) and site negotiation requirements

High-capacity 5G TDD trials are currently underway in markets including Europe, India, the Americas and Asia where 4G and high-capacity 5G technologies will co-exist.

A range of demos and solutions will be showcased on hospitality stand 2L24, Hall 2. To set up a meeting at MWC 2019 with RFS to discuss the evolution to 5G and how RFS can help, contact [Véronique De Fournoux](#).

About RFS

Radio Frequency Systems (RFS) is a global designer and manufacturer of cable, antenna and tower systems, plus active and passive RF conditioning modules, providing total-package solutions for wireless infrastructure.

RFS serves OEMs, distributors, system integrators, operators and installers in the broadcast, wireless communications, 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 infrastructure.

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