picoChip – The First Baseband Company to Support New LTE Femtocell APIs

BATH, UK – picoChip today announced that it is the first company to support the newly announced Femto Forum LTE application programming interfaces (APIs). The new APIs help developers of LTE femtocells integrate subsystems from different suppliers reducing integration cost and time, and accelerating development of femtocells and other 'small cell' basestations which are critically important for LTE network deployment.

The LTE APIs have been defined over the past two years with contributions from many companies, including picoChip as one of the key participants. picoChip's Dr. Clare Somerville acted as co-editor and was shortlisted for the 2010 Femto Forum Award for Individual Contribution in recognition of her role in the project.

The new APIs are already fully supported by picoChip's industry-leading PC8608/9 LTE products, which form the basis of the system level products the company has developed with partners, demonstrating the reality of these standards.

This new Femto Forum initiative addresses three fundamental LTE femtocell functions: The interface from baseband to radio; scheduling (to assign packets to frequency and time slots); and network monitoring (to minimize interference with the macro network and optimize femtocell coverage).

Crucially, the APIs enable vendors like picoChip to differentiate with unique approaches to the various key areas, while helping ensure their solutions are compatible with other compliant femtocell components and subsystems.

picoChip is the industry's leading supplier of femtocell technology and silicon, shipping in volume for use on multiple carriers' networks. The company's picoXcell SoCs crystallize five years' experience in the field; its picoArray(TM) programmable wireless processors are class-leading, flexible, programmable solutions for any wireless standard, including GSM, HSPA, TD-SCDMA, WiMAX, cdma2000, LTE and LTE-Advanced.

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