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Sophia Antipolis: the first professional multi-servicesmobile box on LTE (4G)

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Gemalto and its subsidiary Cinterion, specialising in M2M (Machine to Machine) applications are also involved in this project.

The objective of the WL-BOX-4G project is to develop a "plug & play" mobile box connected to the LTE/4G network to offer a high-speed, competitive solution for companies and economic organisations. The key advantage is that a fixed infrastructure will no longer be required and the Box can therefore be used by companies in mobile facilities or on remote sites, not covered by traditional wired networks.

Until recently, the deployment of professional services such as voice and data access (IPBX), remote management and maintenance or the technical management of buildings required human and associated technical resources. Access to a wired network was also required to operate these services.

"With the appearance of new high-speed transmission mobile technologies such as LTE, a more spontaneous deployment of services based on IP connectivity has become possible. Recent trials conducted in the United States with an on-board LTE terminal in a vehicle have made it possible to measure a useful data rate of 25 megabytes per second", declares Alain Tassy, Head of the WL-BOX 4G project and leader of the SCS Cluster's mobility working group.

In view of these results, those involved in the WL-BOX 4G propose to develop the prototype of a first "all-in-one" mobile box offering a range of professional services in a single box:

        Enterprise voice over IP,

        High-speed internet access,

        Video streaming,

        Remote technical supervision of buildings and facilities using heterogeneous M2M sensors (for example to collect and distribute information, monitoring and management).

        In addition to tests in a laboratory and on the Telecoms platform, experiments will be conducted on Monaco Telecom's operational LTE network.

There are many fields of application for the WL-BOX 4G. These range from the rapid deployment of services at a low cost (necessary in companies operating in areas lacking in infrastructure), to the establishment of technical networks by regional authorities (to monitor city centres and road infrastructures).

In the medium-term, the technology building blocks developed as part of the WL-BOX-4G project will be used to deploy solutions and services in the field of telehealth or allow the development of a subscriber connection terminal for local radio station operators wanting to migrate their network to LTE.

The WL-BOX-4G is the result of a partnership between industrial and academic organisations in the PACA region, facilitated by the SCS Cluster as part of the theme group "Mobility". After accreditation, the cluster assisted Quescom and its partners to draft the submission application. It also helped them in their dealings with the Ministry of Industry and the local authorities in PACA who will co-finance this project.

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