

New PTCRB Test and Certification Web-Portal from 7 layers

PTCRB test and certification process gains efficiency and speeds up market access for mobile phone manufacturers

Ratingen, 30th January 2009:

The new PTCRB portal brings transparency, efficiency and speed to the PTCRB test and certification process, which has to be followed when entering a PTCRB Operator Market with a GSM/UMTS cellular device. It has been developed by the InterLab[®] Business Unit of 7 layers, a global group of test & service centers for the wireless industry.

PTCRB is a consortium of Network Operators, which defines the requirements cellular devices have to fulfill when entering the Market. Due to the continuously growing complexity of such products and the pace of technological development, handling the necessary test & certification processes has become a time consuming task that needs a lot of coordination between all involved parties. For this reason PTCRB decided to provide its members with a new web-based portal which could handle the process more efficiently. This meant looking for a solution which offers an easy access to the certification criteria, change requests, information about test systems, test cases and their validation status, plus a quarterly regular update.

"PTCRB chose 7 layers to set-up the new web-based certification system because they combine a good insight into certification processes - and the tasks applicants have to fulfill when applying for certification - with the capability to develop complex software systems in a given time frame, following a large number of diverse requirements", explains Glen Scales, Chairman of PTCRB. "It is especially important for PTCRB to provide its members with a user friendly solution that can be handled directly from all over the world. The certification criteria need to be presented in a clear, instantly understandable fashion, whilst assuring a high level of topicality as well as performance and security. The new portal provides all this and we feel that our members will be as pleased with it as we are."

The new product, for which 7 layers takes over all support and maintenance tasks, is based on the InterLab software system, which is ideal for intricate, distributed assessment procedures. Similar solutions might be useful for manufacturers, network operators, special interest groups etc. in order to conveniently manage assessment procedures that become more important the more complex wireless communications products become. Especially publications of updates, which can be a cumbersome task when managed traditionally, can be handled with such tools in just a few minutes.

“Developing this new portal together with PTCRB was a great experience for us”, says Carsten Kuhfuss, product manager at 7 layers. “We all took special care of user friendliness and reliability in order to provide a system that meets the time to market requirements of the industry. Due to the number of certification requirements, test cases, test solutions, updates etc. developing a portal for such a large organization as PTCRB is a complex task. However due to the great cooperation between all involved parties, we can now present the market with a well-suited and satisfying solution.”

About PTCRB

The purpose of the PTCRB is to provide the framework within which GERAN, UTRAN, and E-UTRAN device certification can take place for members of the PTCRB. This includes, but is not limited to, determination of the test specifications and methods necessary to support the certification process for GERAN, UTRAN, and E-UTRAN devices. This group will also be responsible to generate input regarding testing of devices to standards development organizations.

About 7 layers

7 layers is an international group of test and service centers for the wireless communications industry with broad expertise in testing and qualification for GSM, GPRS, 3G, Bluetooth® and other wireless communications technologies. 7 layers offers test house services as well as engineering services for product and test solution development. In a separate business unit 7 layers has developed the InterLab Software System, which is ideal for intricate, distributed assessment procedures. End product manufacturers, component and reference design manufacturers as well as network operators benefit from the 7 layers' services. The 7 layers test and service centers are connected via a “Rapid Response Network”. It ensures seamless information transfer between its laboratories in Germany, China, Korea, Taiwan, Japan and USA and enables clients to follow and manage their test projects conveniently via web-access. For more information go to: <http://www.7Layers.com>

The 7 layers Software House develops and markets the InterLab Software System. InterLab supports high-tech industries with the systematic and efficient management of verification and validation processes of complex products. It coordinates the activities of R&D and test departments from various locations, supports version control processes and result analysis as well as automation and reproducibility of test processes. For more information go to <http://www.interlab.com>

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