

Virtual Extension Announces a Breakthrough in Scalable AMI Networks of Over 1 Million Meters

Utilities Benefit from Unmatched Flexibility and Performance of their Wireless Networks

San Diego, CA at DistribuTECH -- February 5, 2009 -- Virtual Extension, a leading mesh Wireless Sensor Network provider, today announces the availability of Very Large Wireless (VLW) Networks, using its Diversity Path Mesh™ technology.

The VLW Networks are built using the adjacent cells approach, which in Virtual Extension's networks is implemented without practical limitation on the number of cells and their size. Such networks can range from a few nodes to hundreds of nodes utilizing tens of hops, and each cell or group of cells can use drive-by or fixed reading. Furthermore, several cells can be set to operate in the same geographical area, without interfering with each other.

Virtual Extension's Diversity Path Mesh™ technology ensures that each transmission is relayed by the nodes surrounding it. Instead of investing in computing and network resources to choose the best radio path and then instruct specific nodes, the network is flooded with the data in dozens of propagation paths, eliminating the need to route and manage, thus increasing robustness and range for connecting the nodes of the network.

In VLW networks the latency can be critical, for example for reading all the meters in the network at a certain hour. The use of the flooding based Diversity Path Mesh enables short and highly deterministic latency, since data passing through the network contains mainly the payload, with a very small overhead. This negligible overhead is also the reason for the very low power consumption of Virtual Extension's networks.

Another important capability requested by VLW networks is the capability to send broadcast and multicast messages. Such capability is inherent in flooding based networks, such as Virtual Extension's VEmesh products.

"Virtual Extension designed the VLW networks' capability with the utilities' customers in mind," said Yariv Oren, Virtual Extension's CEO. "VEmesh flooding architecture allows the network to easily scale up to very large deployments, while meeting utilities' needs for easy deployment and flexibility", he added.

Built to provide OEMs with license-free RF communications in difficult environments and over long distances, VEmesh – Virtual Extension' Wireless Networks – is establishing its presence as the most cost-effective alternative where range, reliability, flexibility, and simplicity of deployment are crucial.

The complete line of Virtual Extension products is available now. The VEmesh Evaluation Kit is priced at \$2,500.

About Virtual Extension

Operating since 2000, Virtual Extension has pioneered Diverse Path Mesh technology for Wireless Sensor Networking. The company's OEM customers rate its products as having the best range, resiliency and simplicity of deployment.

Virtual Extension provides a system that literally enables removing the wires from an existing sensor and replacing them with self-organizing wireless devices. Virtual Extension's design wins power a diversity of Wireless Sensor Networking applications and Automated Meter Reading, including pipeline security applications, agricultural applications, remote lighting, and industrial control and monitoring.

For more information, please visit us at www.virtual-extension.com

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