



# Press Release

Erlangen,  
December 18, 2008

**More than 50 participants visit jointly organized workshop of Bayerische Rundfunk and Fraunhofer IIS in Munich**

## Ready for DAB Surround

**The introduction of surround sound for Digital Radio DAB was focused in a workshop in the headquarters of Bayerische Rundfunk, on December 11th. Experts of BR and Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Circuits IIS discussed with participants of the automotive, consumer electronics and chip industry the potential and possibilities of this technology.**

Dr. Johannes Grotzky, director radio of BR, stated: "As a public broadcasting organization, Bayerische Rundfunk is interested in supporting new broadcasting technologies with its program. In order to push forward this process to broad acceptance, joint action is necessary."

Ernst Dohlus, Head of BR's production and broadcast department, gave a brief overview of the various surround sound activities within the other ARD radio programs and substantiated: "Meanwhile the preconditions for surround broadcasts are widely available. Expenses for studios and outside broadcast vehicles, as well as for integrating DAB Surround in every-day broadcast operations are within calculable limits."

BR's Bayern 4 Klassik will demonstrate the additional benefits of surround sound music on December 28th. From 10 AM to midnight a prestigious selections out of BR's more than 200 own surround sound productions of all musical eras and styles will be presented: baroque, classical & romantic, new music – concert, opera, film music and jazz. The program will be aired – as all present surround sound broadcasts – via

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DVB-S in Dolby Digital AC-3. In addition, through the support of Fraunhofer IIS, DAB Surround as well as mp3 Surround internet stream will be available.

The audiocodec used for DAB Surround is MPEG Surround, which was developed by Fraunhofer IIS. Olaf Korte, head of group broadcast applications explains: »Switching to MPEG Surround is easy. The codec is fairly efficient by delivering the spatial information packed within the stereo data stream itself. « Therefore no additional transmission costs arise. According to Olaf Korte, yet another advantage is the codec's backward compatibility: »Future DAB receivers will deliver impressive surround sound. But even today's DAB radios will not fall silent, as they will reproduce ordinary stereo sound.«

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About Fraunhofer IIS  
Founded in 1985, the Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Circuits IIS in Erlangen, Germany, today with 585 staff members, ranks first among the Fraunhofer Institutes concerning headcount and revenues. As the inventor of mp3 and co-inventor of the MPEG AAC audio coding standard, Fraunhofer IIS has reached worldwide recognition.

It provides research services on a contract basis and technology licensing. The research topics are: Audio and video source coding, multimedia realtime systems, digital radio broadcasting and digital cinema systems, integrated circuits and sensor systems, design automation, wireless, wired and optical networks, localization and navigation, imaging systems and nanofocus X-ray technology, high-speed cameras, medical sensor solutions and communications technology in transport and logistics. The budget of 72 million Euro is mainly financed by projects from industry, the service sector and public authorities. Less than 25 percent of the budget is subsidized by federal and state funds.

About Bayern 4 Klassik:  
Bayern 4 Klassik the classical music channel of Bayerischer Rundfunk Munich went first on air on October 4th 1980. It was then – and is still today – the only public radio station in Germany exclusively dedicated to classical music and Jazz. As in classical music the demand of high quality audio and natural reproduction is strong, from the very beginning the program has pioneered the use of the latest achievements in recording and broadcast technology. Already in 1979 the first digital recordings of music were made. In 1988 transmission on Digital Satellite Radio (DSR) started. Since 2005 live concerts have been broadcast in Dolby Digital on DVB-S Radio. Bayern 4 Klassik can be received terrestrial on FM and DAB in Bavaria, via cable in

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many federal states of Germany, throughout Europe via Satellite and worldwide via internet stream.

ARD radio transponder (DVB-S Radio): Astra 1 H, Transponder 93, Downlink-Frequency 12.26550 GHz, horizontal polarisation, symbol rate 27.500 und differential protection (FEC)  $\frac{3}{4}$

Bayern4 Klassik: PID 132; Dolby Digital 5.1/ 2.0; bit rate: 448  
[www.bayern4klassik.de](http://www.bayern4klassik.de)

For further information: [www.bayern4klassik.de/surround](http://www.bayern4klassik.de/surround)

E-Mail: [surround@bayern4klassik.de](mailto:surround@bayern4klassik.de)

or

Bayern 4 Klassik

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