DVB Experts Digital TV Labs and Fraunhofer IIS Join Forces for MPEG-4 HE-AAC Audio Compliance at IBC

Amsterdam, IBC, September 11, 2013 – Digital TV Labs, the digital media and device testing company and Fraunhofer IIS, the world renowned audio technology specialists announced a partnership to introduce an audio compliance program for HE-AAC enabled DVB receivers. The two organizations will join forces to build a DVB Test Suite and compliance test service to validate Set-Top-Boxes and iDTVs against the MPEG-4 AAC and HE-AAC specification.

High Efficiency-Advanced Audio Coding, HE-AAC, the MPEG standard co-developed and continuously innovated by Fraunhofer IIS, is the world’s most efficient high-quality multi-channel and stereo audio codec. It has been widely deployed in bit rate sensitive platforms for IP delivered and TV / radio broadcast systems such as ISDB, SBTVD, DMB, ATSC-M/H, 3GPP, HbbTV, DAB+ and Digital Radio Mondiale. HE-AAC for DVB audio encoding is standardized by TS 101 154 and supports the full set of DVB/MPEG metadata.

Digital TV Labs has long expertise providing testing services and test suites for DVB receivers, providing test suites for over 40 different countries. The new HE-AAC DVB test suite will be built on the existing extensive test streams from both organizations. The test suite will be made available to consumer electronics manufacturers, semiconductor suppliers and broadcasters, enabling them to efficiently validate end-user platforms and ensure interoperability with broadcast audio services. Digital TV Labs will provide a compliance test service augmenting their existing wide range of CE test services.

"Fraunhofer is well known in the industry for its expertise in the development of audio coding technologies and the outstanding quality of its implementations," said Harald Popp, head of the Audio & Multimedia Business department at Fraunhofer IIS. "This
new compliance program allows manufacturers to ensure that they offer high quality audio and multimedia experiences to the end user."

Keith Potter, CEO of Digital TV Labs commented “We are delighted to be working with Fraunhofer IIS in rolling out this exciting program”, adding “This new development will provide for the first time a comprehensive test suite that will provide full HE-AAC coverage and compliance validation for DVB receivers.”

About Fraunhofer
The Audio and Multimedia division of Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Circuits IIS, based in Erlangen, Germany, has been working in compressed audio technology for more than 25 years and remains a leading innovator of technologies for cutting-edge multimedia systems. Fraunhofer IIS is universally credited with the development of mp3 and co-development of the AAC (Advanced Audio Coding) as well as technologies for the media world of tomorrow, including Fraunhofer Cingo for virtual surround, Fraunhofer Symphoria for automotive 3D audio, AAC-ELD for telephone calls with CD-like audio quality, and Dialog Enhancement to allow TV viewers to adjust dialog loudness as they desire.

Through the course of more than two decades, Fraunhofer IIS has licensed its audio codec software and application-specific customizations to at least 1,000 companies. Fraunhofer estimates that it has enabled more than 6 billion commercial products worldwide using its mp3, AAC and other media technologies.

The Fraunhofer IIS organization is part of Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, based in Munich, Germany. Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft is Europe’s largest applied research organization and is partly funded by the German government. With 22,000 employees worldwide, Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft is composed of 66 Institutes conducting research in a broad range of research areas.

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About Digital TV Labs:
Digital TV Labs provides specialised digital media consultancy, testing tools and services to validate digital media and devices conformance for multiple standards across various worldwide geographies. The company delivers testing solutions for manufacturers, operators, standards organisations and broadcasters covering terrestrial, satellite, cable and IP delivery. Digital TV Labs’ flagship products, Evora iSuite and Ligada iSuite, are unique test frameworks incorporating multiple test suites covering over fifty countries and operators, and that can be quickly configured for new standards and specifications. Digital TV Labs has over 300 clients including all the major consumer electronic brands, manufacturers and semiconductor suppliers. For more information about Digital TV Labs visit http://www.digitaltv-labs.com.

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