

RTT joins 5GIC as an SME Partner

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We are pleased to announce that as of January 2017, <u>RTT is an affiliate SME partner of the 5G Innovation Centre (5GIC)</u>. Based on the University of Surrey Stag Hill Campus, 5GIC is one of the principal centres of excellence for 5G related research and we look forward to working with the 5GIC team on 5G and satellite spectrum and standards issues and related supply chain implications.

There is considerable debate as to how 5G will be deployed both in Europe, the US and ROW markets. This includes present discussions on using 5G at UHF and C band ('low band and mid band') in addition to centimetre band and millimetre band ('high band') deployments. Additionally US operators and their vendor supply chain are promoting physical layer standards which are similar but different to 3GPP Release 15 and 16 coupled to spectrum not supported by the ITU.

Geoff Varrall, CTO of RTT comments

"The impact of spectrum and standards decisions on user device and IOT device performance and cost is often underestimated. There is no point in allocating a new band to a technology unless device suppliers are motivated to support that band to support the introduction of market competitive products including products that can be sold into low ARPU markets.

"Adding bands and technologies to existing legacy devices can have a negative impact on performance and result in an overall reduction in throughput and power efficiency, the opposite of the outcome intended.

"It is also crucial to establish global scale both in terms of spectrum allocation and standards adoption in order to realise an acceptable return on research and development investment.

"Fortuitously amortisation can now be spread across a broader mix of industries including automotive and satellite and radar – low cost single chip automotive radar for E band and fractional beam width antennas in satellite systems are two contemporary examples of potential technology translation.

"5GIC is ideally placed to help meet these technical and commercial challenges and exploit the associated technical and commercial opportunities and we look forward to working with them as an SME affiliate member company'

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5G and satellite industry supply chain economics and spectral and space asset value

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