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BROKERAGE MARKETING PACKAGE

“LTE –Advanced Technology Patent Portfolio”

THIS OFFERING IS FOR THE SALE OF:
**A PORTFOLIO OF 20 US PATENTS, 8 US PATENT APPLICATIONS,
2 EP PATENTS, and 5 EP APPLICATIONS**

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RICH EHRLICKMAN | RICH@IPOfferings.COM | +1-845-558-8300
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Overview

Details of the Patent Portfolio

LTE-Advanced Marketplace

Potential Buyers & Licensing Opportunities

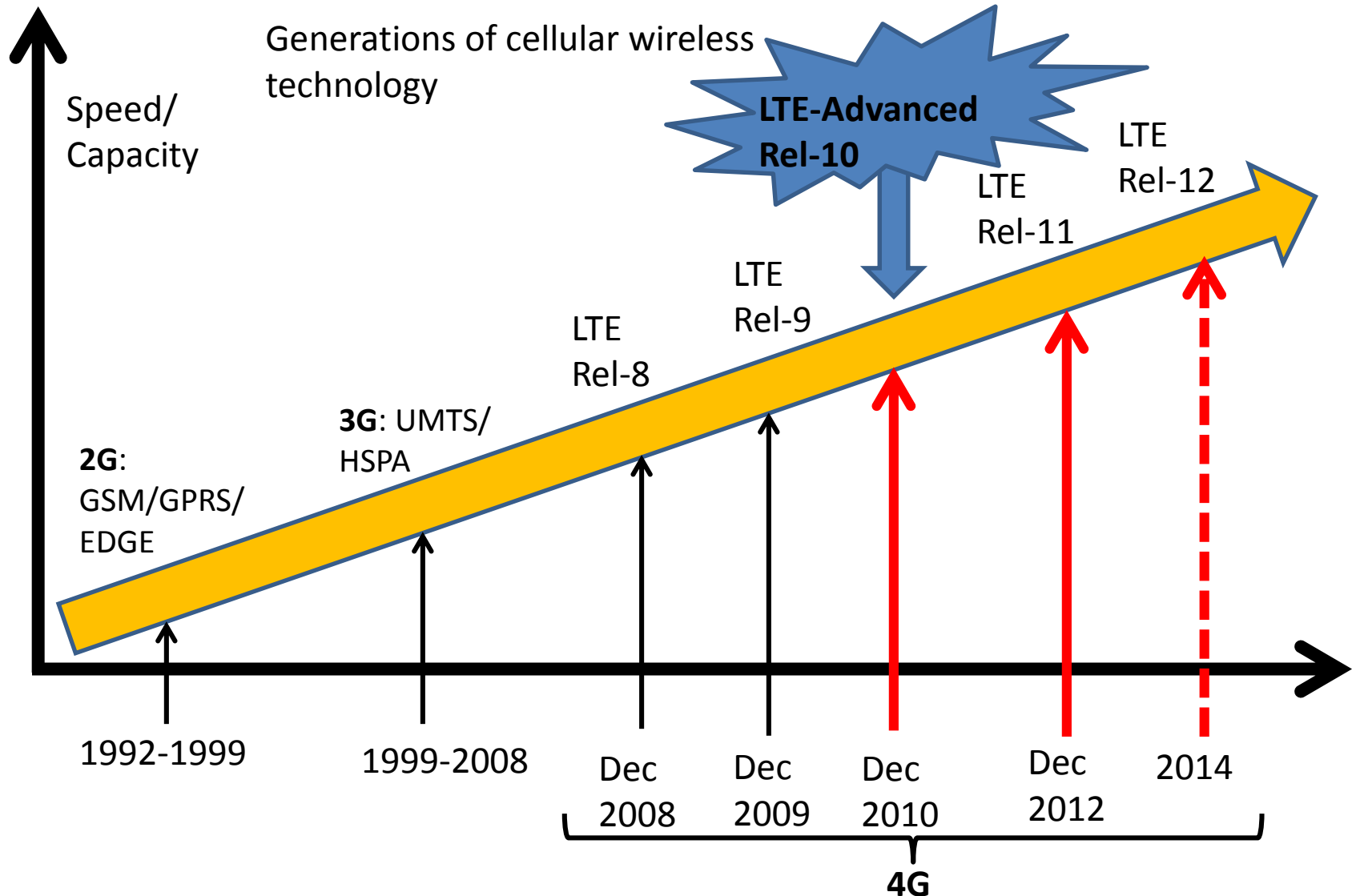
Implementation and Claim Analysis

Conclusion

Appendix

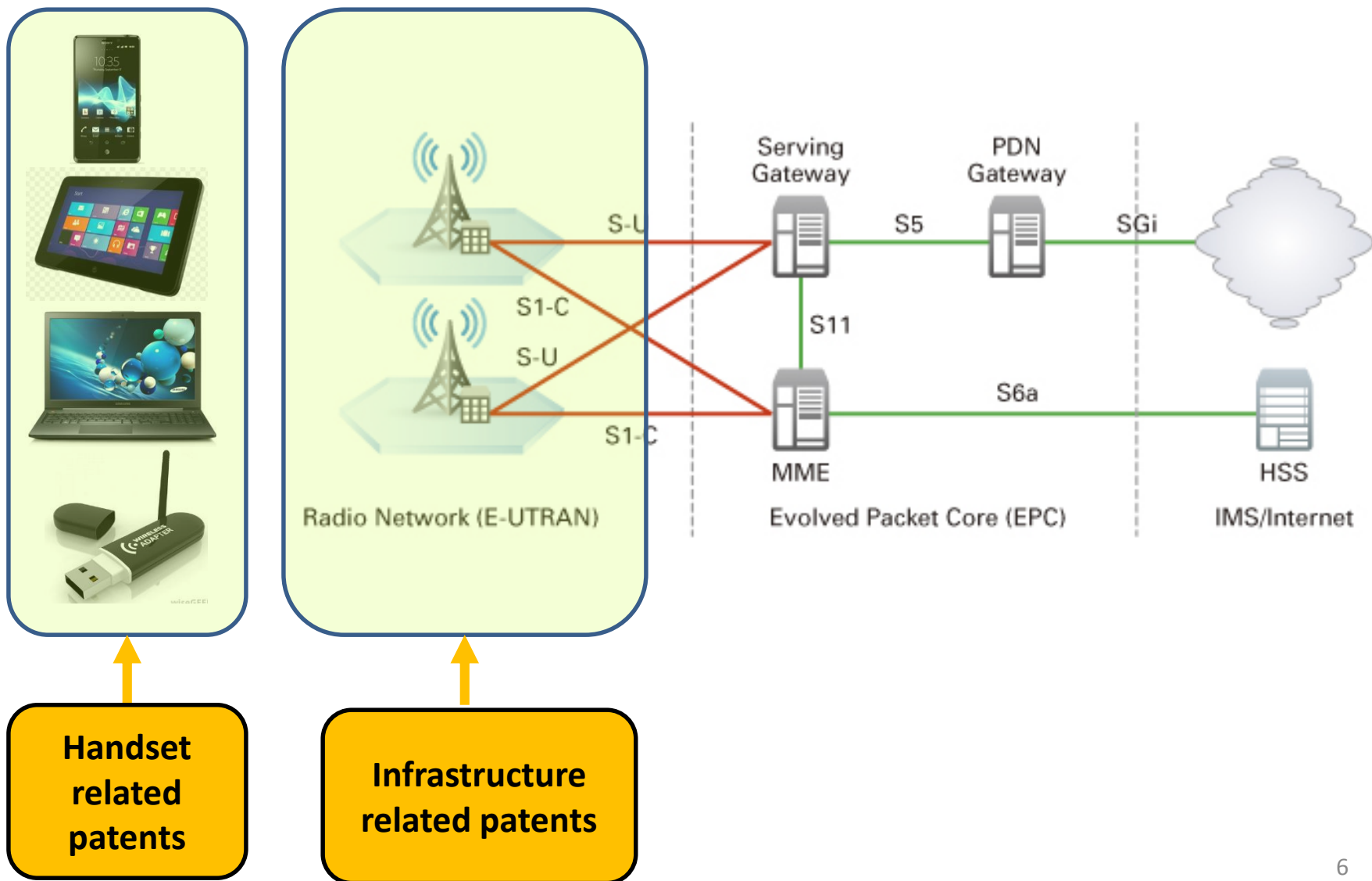
Overview

Cellular Wireless Technology Evolution



Release 11 and beyond products are expected to be introduced to the market in 2015-2016 time period.

LTE Network Architecture



LTE-Advanced Technology

- LTE is the worldwide cellular network technology standard for 4G
- LTE-Advanced offers 1Gbps downlink speed and is often called “True 4G” and meets ITU-T requirements for 4G networks
- LTE operators plan to upgrade their LTE network to LTE-Advanced
 - Japan, South Korea and Russia deployed LTE-A in 2013, Samsung Galaxy 4S includes LTE-A
 - Many operators in US/Europe plan trials in 2014

LTE-Advanced Advantages

- Carrier Aggregation
 - Results in ~5 times more speed compared with LTE
 - Enables aggregation of carriers in different bands
- Advanced MIMO
 - Results in ~2 times more speed compared with LTE
- Heterogeneous Network
 - Provides flexible network deployment
- Enhanced Control Channel and Signaling
 - Provides enhanced interference control and spectral efficiency

Details of the Patent Portfolio

LTE-Advanced Patent Portfolio

| Patent Applications | No. of Patents |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| PCT Applications | 3 |
| EP National Stage Applications | 2 |
| EP Issued/Allowed Patents | 2 |
| US Issued/Allowed Patents | 20 |
| Pending US applications | 8 |
| Total | 35 |

Portfolio includes 11 patent families.

LTE-Advanced Patent Portfolio

| Technology Category | No. of Patents |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Release-11 Standard Essential | 18 |
| Release-11 Implementation | 2 |
| Release-13 Standard Essential* | 11 |
| Release-11/13 Standard Essential* | 4 |
| Total | 35 |

* Expected to be standard essential; standard is under development.



A. Release 11 Standard Essential

Patent assets related to Release 11 Standard Essential include 13 US patents, 3 US patent applications and 1 EP patent asset (listed below).

IP Assets

| Patent No. | Publication Number | Title | LTE-Release | Technology Category: 1) ePDCCH, 2) Inter-band Carrier Aggregation, 3) MTC (NB-IoT, eMTC) | Application Priority Date | Application Filing Date |
|------------|--------------------|--|-------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 8,483,172 | US 2013-0176974 A1 | Enhanced Signaling in a Wireless Device and Base Station | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 7/1/2011 | 3/5/2013 |
| 8,526,459 | US 2013-0195057 A1 | Wireless Device Capability and Enhanced Control Channel | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 12/4/2011 | 3/8/2013 |
| 8,576,794 | US 2013-0308576 A1 | Channel Configuration in a Wireless Network | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 7/1/2011 | 7/22/2013 |
| 8,531,990 | US 2013-0215871 A1 | Handover Signaling in Wireless Networks | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 12/4/2011 | 3/28/2013 |
| 8,526,393 | US8526393 B1 | Radio Resource Configuration | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 7/1/2011 | 5/22/2013 |
| 8,571,056 | US 2013-0294385 A1 | Enhanced Control Channel for a Wireless Device | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 12/4/2011 | 7/10/2013 |
| 8,804,772 | US 2014-0003385 A1 | Radio Resources for Data and Scheduling Information | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 7/4/2011 | 9/3/2013 |
| 8,711,731 | 13956640 | Handover Signaling in Wireless Networks | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 12/4/2011 | 8/1/2013 |
| 8,699,449 | US 2013-0322382 A1 | Radio Resource Configuration | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 7/1/2011 | 8/6/2013 contd... |



A. Release 11 Standard Essential

Patent assets related to Release 11 Standard Essential include 13 US patents, 3 US patent applications (1 notice of allowance) and 2 EP patent asset (listed below).

IP Assets

| Patent No. | Publication Number | Title | LTE-Release | Technology Category: 1) ePDCCH, 2) Inter-band Carrier Aggregation, 3) MTC/NB-IoT | Application Priority Date | Application Filing Date |
|--------------|--------------------|--|-------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| | US 2014-0029577 A1 | Handover Signaling in a Wireless Network | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 12/4/2011 | 10/1/2013 |
| 8,422,455 | US 2013-0114542 A1 | Enhanced Control Channel in Multicarrier Wireless Networks | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 7/1/2011 | 12/26/2012 |
| | US 2014-0064240 A1 | Channel Configuration in a Wireless Network | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 7/1/2011 | 11/4/2013 |
| 8,811,333 | US 2014-0177577 A1 | Control And Data Channel Radio Resource Configuration | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 7/1/2011 | 3/1/2014 |
| 8,953,550 | US 2014-0177578 A1 | Channel Configuration in a Wireless Network | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 7/1/2011 | 3/1/2014 |
| 8,908,633 | US 2014-0328315 A1 | Control And Data Channel Radio Resource Configuration | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 7/1/2011 | 7/22/2014 |
| | 14558095 | Control And Data Channel Radio Resource Configuration | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 7/1/2011 | 12/2/2014 |
| | EP 14200113.0 | Broadcast Channel in Multicarrier Systems | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 7/1/2011 | 12/23/2014 |
| EP2564612 A1 | EP2564612 A1 | Broadcast Channel in Multicarrier Systems | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 7/4/2011 | 7/3/2012 |

EOU's Available in attached pdf. All other are available upon request

contd...



IP Assets

B. Release 11 Implementation

Patent assets related to Release 11 Implementation include 2 US patent applications. (listed below).

| Patent No. | Publication Number | Title | LTE-Release | Technology Category: 1) ePDCCH, 2) Inter-band Carrier | Application Priority Date | Application Filing Date |
|------------|--------------------|---|-------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| | US 2013-0294369 A1 | Control Channel in a Wireless Communication System | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 5/4/2012 | 5/6/2013 |
| | US 2014-0105165 A1 | Radio Resources Configuration Signaling in a Wireless Network | Rel-11 | ePDCCH | 7/1/2011 | 12/23/2013 |

C. Release 11 & 13 Standard Essential

Patent assets related to Release 11 & 13 Standard Essential include 4WIPO patent applications. (listed below).

| Patent No. | Publication Number | Title | LTE-Release | Technology Category: 1) ePDCCH, 2) Inter-band Carrier | Application Priority Date | Application Filing Date |
|------------|--------------------|--|----------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| | WO/2013/006379 A1 | Synchronization Signal and Control Messages in Multicarrier OFDM | Rel-11, Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 7/1/2011 | 6/28/2012 |
| | WO/2013/006593 A1 | Broadcast Channel in Multicarrier Systems | Rel-11, Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 7/4/2011 | 7/3/2012 |
| | WO/2013/085823 A1 | Handover in Multicarrier Wireless Networks | Rel-11, Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 12/4/2011 | 12/1/2012 |
| | EP 2012805848.4 | Handover in Multicarrier Wireless Networks | Rel-11, Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 12/4/2011 | |



D. Release 13 Standard Essential

Patent assets related to Release 13 Standard Essential include 6 US patents, 4 US patent applications and 2 EP patent asset (listed below).

IP Assets

| Patent No. | Publication Number | Title | LTE-Release | Technology Category: 1) ePDCCH, 2) Inter-band Carrier | Application Priority Date | Application Filing Date |
|------------|--------------------|---|-------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 8,582,527 | US 2013-0003673 A1 | Hybrid Automatic Repeat Request in Multicarrier Systems | Rel-13 | NCT (New Carrier Type) | 7/1/2011 | 6/29/2012 |
| 8,427,976 | US 2013-0308576 A1 | Carrier Information Exchange between Base Stations | Rel-13 | NCT (New Carrier Type) | 12/4/2011 | 11/30/2012 |
| 8,446,844 | US 2013-0142064 A1 | Handover in Multicarrier Wireless Networks | Rel-13 | NCT (New Carrier Type) | 12/4/2011 | 11/30/2012 |
| 8,369,280 | US 2013-0003672 A1 | Control Channels in Multicarrier OFDM Transmission | Rel-13 | NCT (New Carrier Type) | 7/1/2011 | 6/28/2012 |
| 8,437,303 | US 2013-0010715 A1 | System Frame Number in Multicarrier Systems | Rel-13 | NCT (New Carrier Type) | 7/4/2011 | 7/2/2012 |
| | US 2013-0223381 A1 | Frame Number in Multicarrier Wireless Networks | Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 7/4/2011 | 4/5/2013 |

EOU's Available in attached pdf. All other are available upon request

contd...



E. Release 13 Standard Essential

Patent assets related to Release 13 Standard Essential include 6 US patents, 4 US patent applications and 2 EP patent asset (listed below).

IP Assets

| Patent No. | Publication Number | Title | LTE-Release | Technology Category: 1) ePDCCH, 2) Inter-band Carrier | Application Priority Date | Application Filing Date |
|--------------|--------------------|--|-------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 8,842,637 | US 2013-0142141 A1 | Carrier Information Transmission to Wireless Devices | Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 12/4/2011 | 11/30/2012 |
| | US 2013-0250882 A1 | Information Exchange between Base Stations | Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 3/25/2012 | 3/25/2013 |
| | 1448573 | Carrier Information Transmission to Wireless Devices | Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 12/4/2011 | 9/14/2014 |
| EP2564611 A1 | EP2564611 A1 | Synchronization Signal and Control Messages in Multicarrier OFDM | Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 7/1/2011 | 6/28/2012 |
| EP2564612 A1 | EP2564612 A1 | Broadcast Channel in Multicarrier Systems | Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 7/4/2011 | 7/3/2012 |
| | US 2014-0177598 A1 | Handover Signaling in Wireless Networks | Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 12/4/2011 | 3/2/2014 |

EOU's Available in attached pdf. All other are available upon request

contd...



E. Release 13 Standard Essential

Patent assets related to Release 13 Standard Essential include 6 US patents, 4 US patent applications and 2 EP patent asset (listed below).

IP Assets

| Patent No. | Publication Number | Title | LTE-Release | Technology Category: 1) ePDCCH, 2) Inter-band Carrier Aggregation, 3) NCT/N-Rel-13 | Application Priority Date | Application Filing Date |
|--------------|--------------------|--|-------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 8,842,637 | US 2013-0142141 A1 | Carrier Information Transmission to Wireless Devices | Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 12/4/2011 | 11/30/2012 |
| | US 2013-0250882 A1 | Information Exchange between Base Stations | Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 3/25/2012 | 3/25/2013 |
| | US 20150003381 A | Carrier Information Transmission to Wireless Devices | Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 12/4/2011 | 9/14/2014 |
| EP2564611 A1 | EP2564611 A1 | Synchronization Signal and Control Messages in Multicarrier OFDM | Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 7/1/2011 | 6/28/2012 |
| | US 2014-0177598 A1 | Handover Signaling in Wireless Networks | Rel-13 | ePDCCH + NCT | 12/4/2011 | 3/2/2014 |

EOU's Available in attached pdf. All other are available upon request

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LTE-Advanced Patent Portfolio

| Claim Applicability – Target Product | No. of Patents |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Handsets and Infrastructure | 25 |
| Infrastructure only | 10 |
| Total | 35 |

LTE-Advanced Patent Portfolio

| | No. of Patents |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| ePDCCH configuration/signaling | 19 |
| New Carrier Type | 12 |
| ePDCCH / New Carrier Type | 4 |
| Total | 35 |

Detailed List of Patents (in Excel File)

Detailed list of the patents are in Excel worksheet LTE-A Portfolio-1.

- Patent #/Application #/Publication #
- Priority date/Filing date
- Title/Abstract/Claims
- Independent/dependent claims
- Handset and infrastructure claims
- Broadest claims
- Applicable LTE Releases/LTE standards
- Standard essential/implementation
- Brief description

Continuation Patent Applications

- Every patent application has a pending continuation application
- Specifications are very detailed and cover:
 - New features of Release 13 standard
 - New features implemented in LTE-A products
- Each PCT application includes a comprehensive disclosure and multiple inventions

LTE-Advanced Patent Portfolio

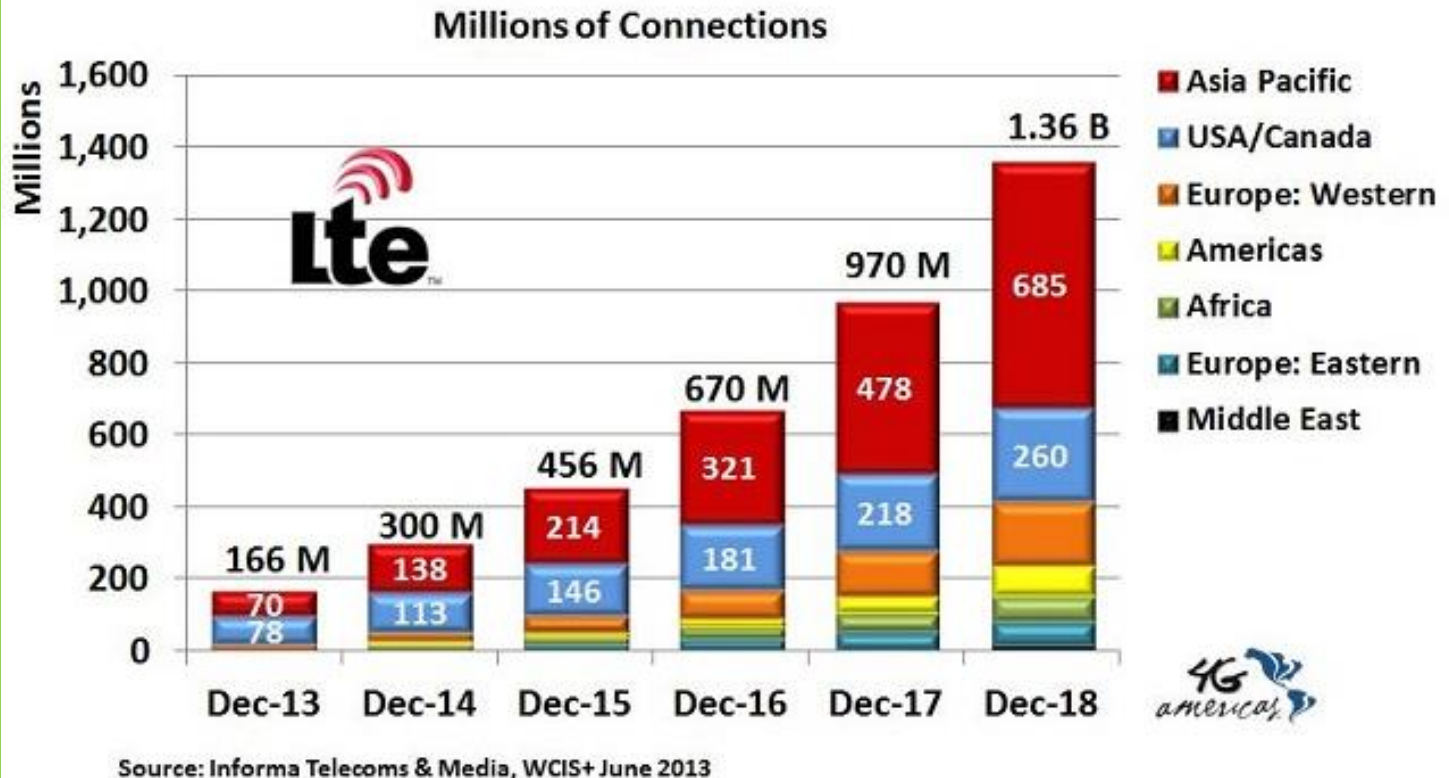
- This patent portfolio is not subject to FRAND obligations
 - ▶ Detailed claims analysis against standards and exemplary products and services are available for ALL the patents
- All the patents are assigned to Ofinno Technologies, LLC
- Terminal disclaimers are filed for continuation applications
- No patent licensing or litigation is underway

LTE-Advanced Marketplace

Global LTE Subscriber Growth

Global LTE Growth Forecast

By the end of 2016, 4G Americas forecasts that there will be more than 670 million LTE subscriptions worldwide, including more than 300 Millions in North America and EU.

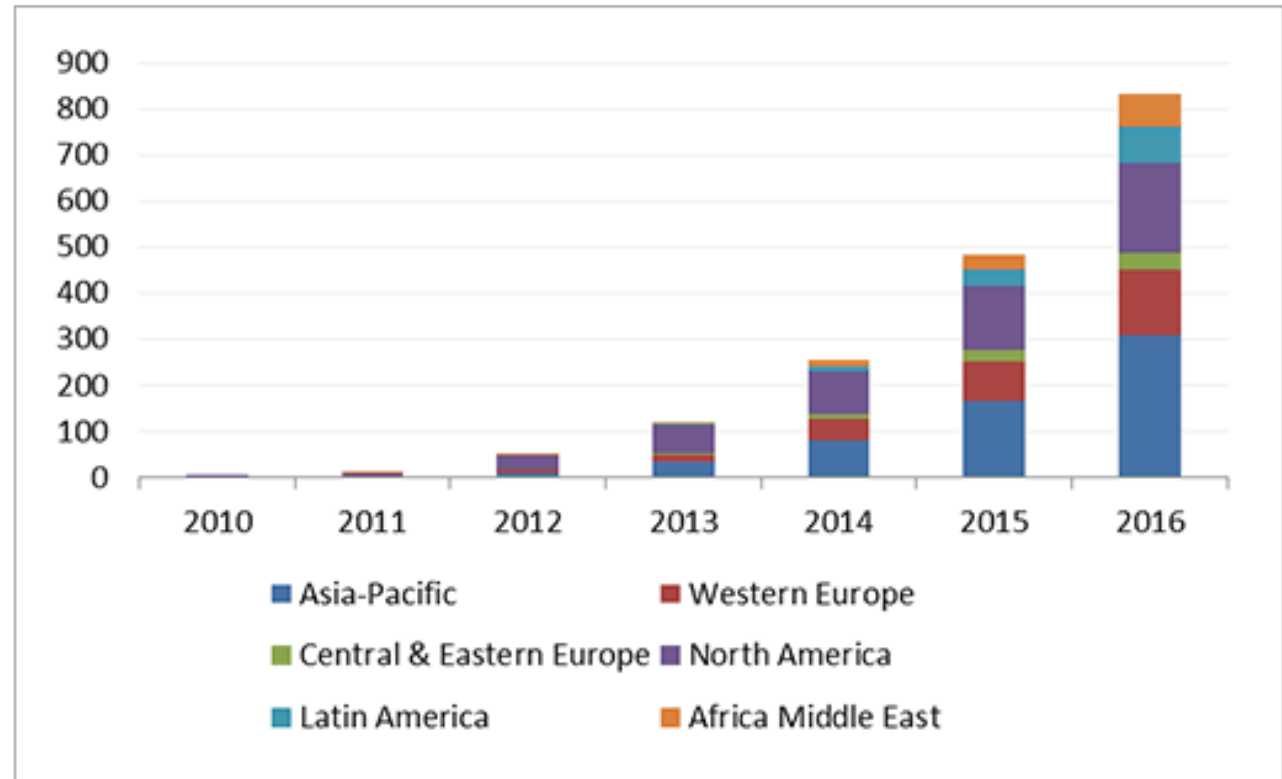


<http://www.4gamericas.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page&pageid=1781>

Global LTE Subscriber Growth

LTE subscribers worldwide, 2010-2016, in millions

By the end of 2016, IDATE forecasts that there will be more than 830 million LTE subscriptions worldwide, including more than 350 Millions in North America and EU.



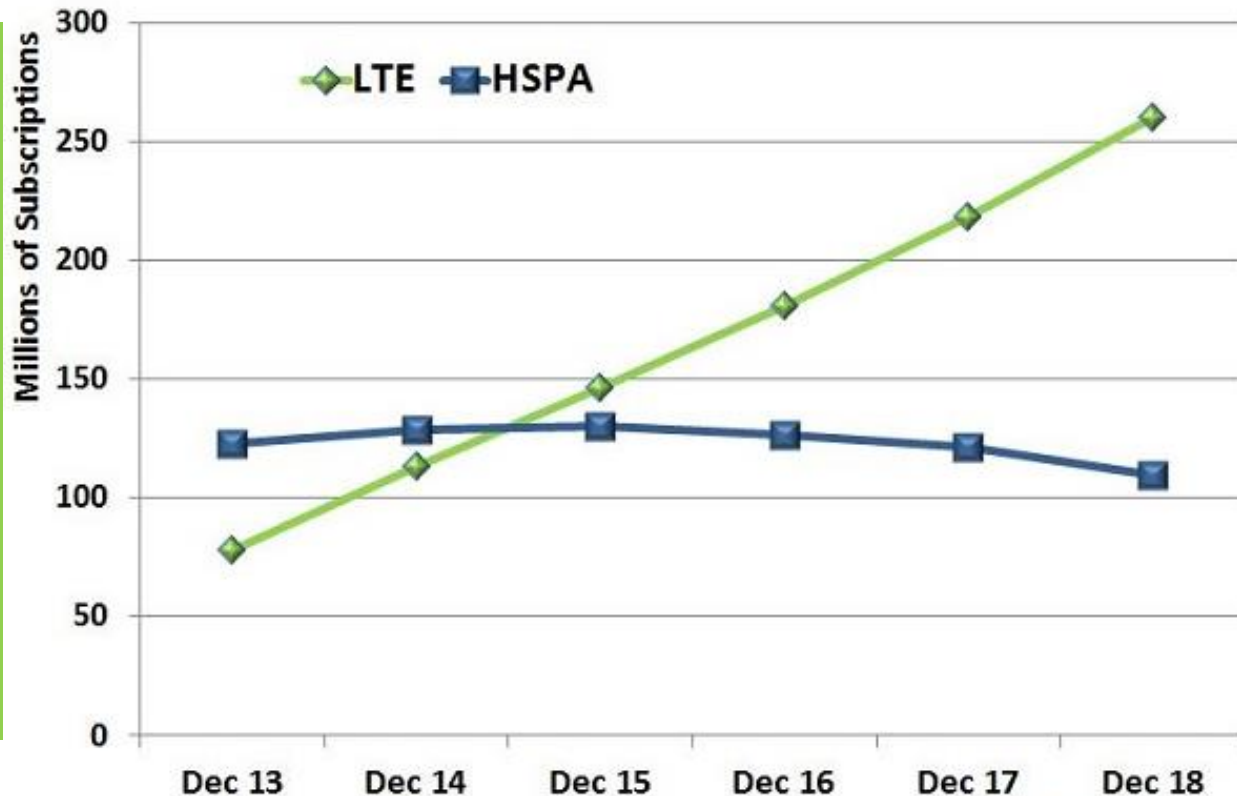
Source: IDATE, LTE Watch Service, March 2012

http://www.afjv.com/news/1069_lte-market.htm

US/Canada LTE Subscriber Growth

US/Canada HSPA-LTE Forecast

By the end of 2016, 4G Americas forecasts that there will be more than 200 million LTE subscriptions in US and Canada.



Source: Informa Telecoms & Media, WCIS+ 2Q 2013



<http://www.4gamericas.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page&pageid=2123>

LTE Handset/Infrastructure Market

- TechCrunch: LTE Phone Shipments Will Triple To 275M Units In 2013 (Dec 2012)
 - <http://techcrunch.com/2012/12/19/lte-phone-shipments-will-triple-to-275m-units-in-2013-with-amazon-mozilla-among-those-waiting-in-the-wings-to-pounce/>
- ABI: 840 Million LTE handsets shipments in 2018 (Jan 2013)
 - <http://www.telecompetitor.com/abi-more-than-half-of-2014-handset-shipments-will-be-smartphones/>
- RCRWireless: The worldwide LTE equipment market is set to double this year, surpassing \$10 billion (March 2013)
 - <http://www.rcrwireless.com/article/20130313/infrastructure-2/report-lte-infrastructure-market-set-double-2013/#>
- Infonetics: LTE equipment to hit \$17.5 billion in 2016 (May 2012)
 - <http://www.infonetics.com/pr/2012/1Q12-2G-3G-4G-LTE-WiMAX-Infrastructure-Market-Highlights.asp>
- Frost & Sullivan: the global LTE test equipment market generated revenues of \$760.8 million in 2011 and is estimated to reach \$2.84 billion in 2018
 - <http://www.telecomlead.com/test-and-measurement/lte-test-equipment-market-to-reach-2-84-billion-in-2018-2018/>

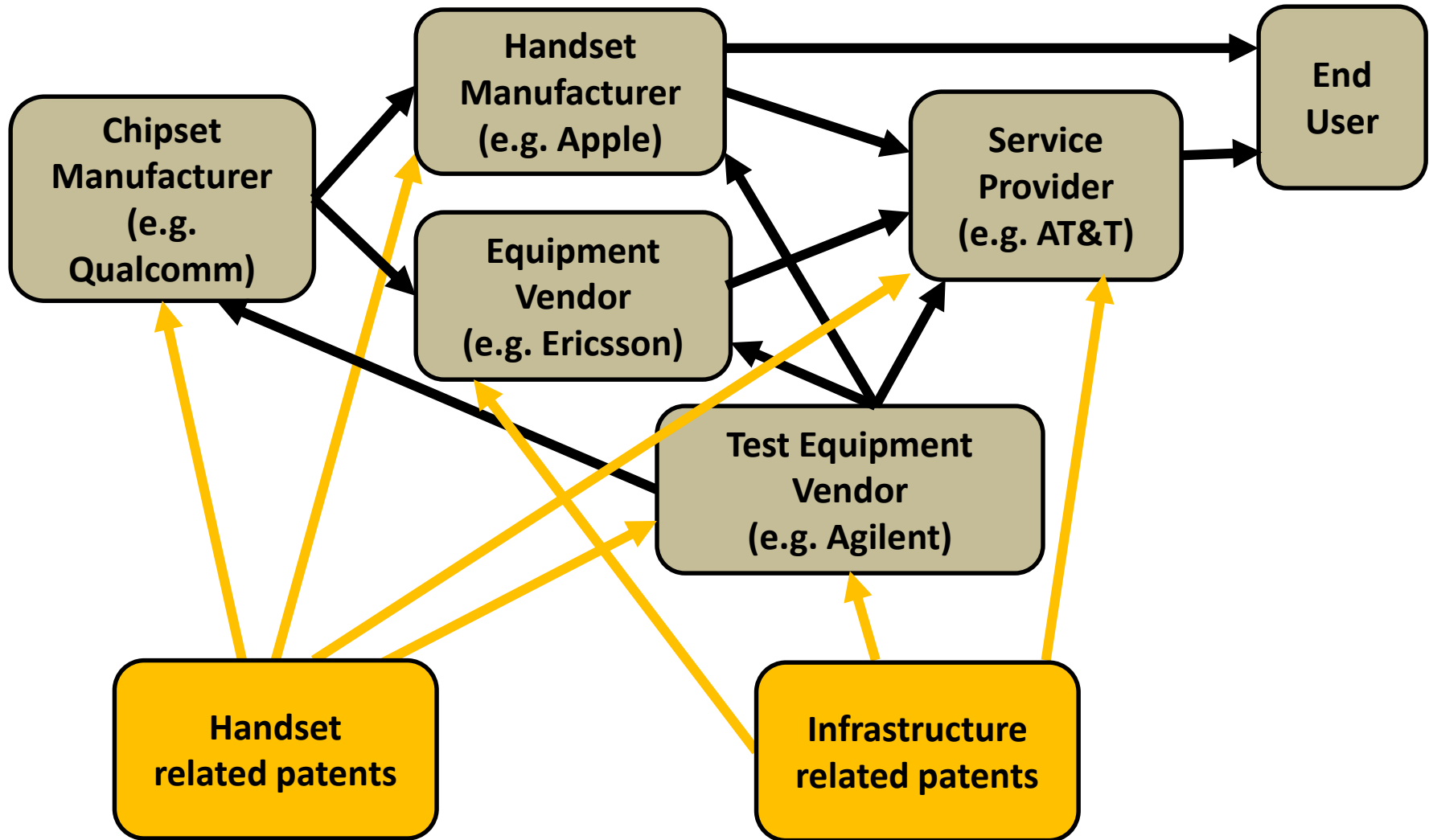
Summary: LTE Market in 2016

- 700 million worldwide subscribers including
 - ~300 million in North America and EU
- 420 million worldwide LTE handsets shipments
 - Wholesale market size: $\sim \$250 \times 420\text{M} = \105 billion
 - Including $\sim \$50\text{B}$ in North America and EU
- Worldwide infrastructure market: $\$17.5$ billion
 - Including $\sim \$8$ billion in North America and EU
- Worldwide test equipment market: $\sim \$1.5$ billion

Potential Buyers & Licensees

- LTE Chipset Manufacturers
- LTE Handset Manufacturers
- LTE Infrastructure Vendors
- LTE Service Operators
- LTE Test Equipment Vendors

LTE Value Chain & LTE-A Portfolio



Potential Licensees: LTE Chipset Manufacturers

- **Qualcomm**
- **Altair Semiconductor**
- **Broadcom**
- **Cavium Networks**
- **Intel**
- **MediaTek**
- **Fujitsu**
- **Panasonic**
- ▶ **Renesas Mobile**
- ▶ **Samsung**
- ▶ **Sequans**
- ▶ **ST-Ericsson**
- ▶ **Freescale Semiconductor**
- ▶ **picoChip**
- ▶ **Texas Instrument**

Potential Licensees: LTE Handset Manufacturers

- Apple
- Samsung
- HTC
- Microsoft/Nokia
- Google/Motorola
- LG
- PanTech
- Amazon
- Sharp
- Blackberry
- Huawei
- ZTE
- ▶ Sony
- ▶ Panasonic
- ▶ Barnes & Noble
- ▶ Toshiba
- ▶ Kyocera
- ▶ Garmin
- ▶ Lenovo
- ▶ Acer
- ▶ Asus
- ▶ Altek
- ▶ Zen Mobile

Potential Licensees: LTE Infrastructure Vendors

- Ericsson
- Huawei Technologies
- ZTE
- Alcatel-Lucent
- Nokia Siemens Networks
- Motorola
- Samsung Electronics
- Tekelec
- Fujitsu Network Communications
- Hitachi Communication Technologies
- NEC
- Panasonic Mobile Communications
- General Dynamics

Potential Licensees: LTE Test Equipment **Vendors**

- **Agilent Technologies**
- **Anritsu**
- **Rohde & Schwarz**
- **Aeroflex**
- **Spirent Communications**
- **JDSU**
- **Ixia**
- **Anite**
- **Aricent**
- **Tektronix Communications**
- **Qasara**
- **Aeroflex**

Potential Licensees: LTE Service Operators

- Example US LTE Service Operators:
 - **Verizon Wireless, AT&T, T-Mobile, Sprint, Leap Wireless, U.S. Cellular**
- Example Canadian LTE Service Operators:
 - **Bell, Eastlink, MTS, Rogers Wireless, Telus, SaskTel**
- Example EU LTE Service Operators:
 - **Vodafone, Deutsche Telecom, Orange, Telia, Swisscom, Telefonica, T-mobile, Mobistar, Vivacom, Elisa, Sonera, Bouygues, SFR**

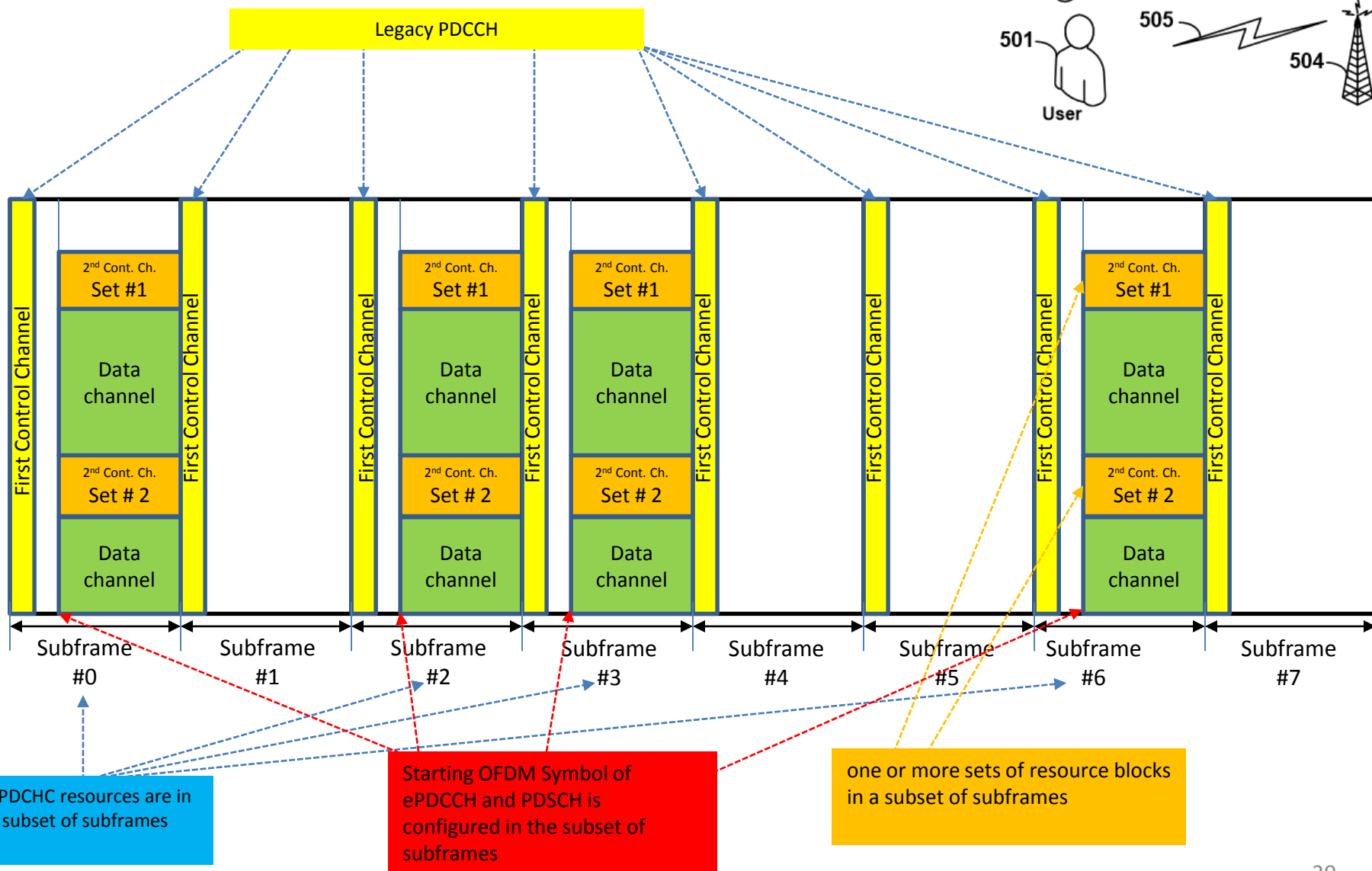
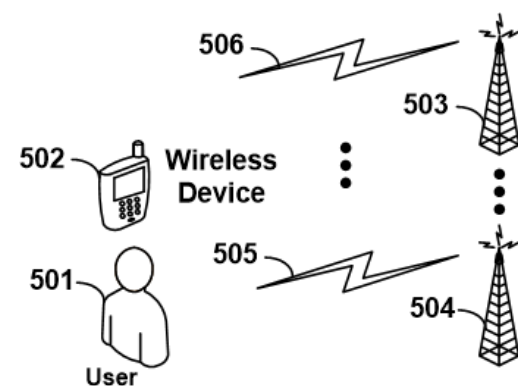
LTE-Advanced Portfolio Implementation & Claim Analysis

- **ePDCCH Configuration and Signaling**
- **New Carrier Type**

ePDCCH Configuration and Signaling

- Improves spectral efficiency and capacity of downlink control channel
- Enhances scalability and flexibility of downlink control channel
- Enables ICIC in co-channel HetNet networks
- Included in service operator LTE-A deployment roadmap and handset/ infrastructure vendors implementation plan

ePDCCH Configuration



Examples of Inventions in the Area of ePDCCH Configuration and Signaling - 1/2

- ePDCCH radio resource configuration parameters in RRC signaling
 - US8,483,172, US8,526,393, PCT/US12/44665, PCT/US12/45342, EP2564611 A1, EP2564612 A1, 14194704
- RRC signaling transmission mechanism for ePDCCH
 - US8,483,172, US8,526,393, 14/016921 , PCT/US12/44665, PCT/US12/45342, EP2564611 A1, EP2564612 A1
- Subframe/symbol configuration for ePDCCH
 - US8,483,172, US8,526,393, PCT/US12/44665, PCT/US12/45342, EP2564611 A1, EP2564612 A1
- Configuration of HARQ feedback for ePDCCH
 - US8,576,794, 14/070,623 , PCT/US12/44665, PCT/US12/45342, EP2564611 A1, EP2564612 A1, 14/194708
- Coexistence of legacy and enhanced PDCCH
 - 13/960,716, US8,422,455 , PCT/US12/44665, PCT/US12/45342, EP2564611 A1, EP2564612 A1

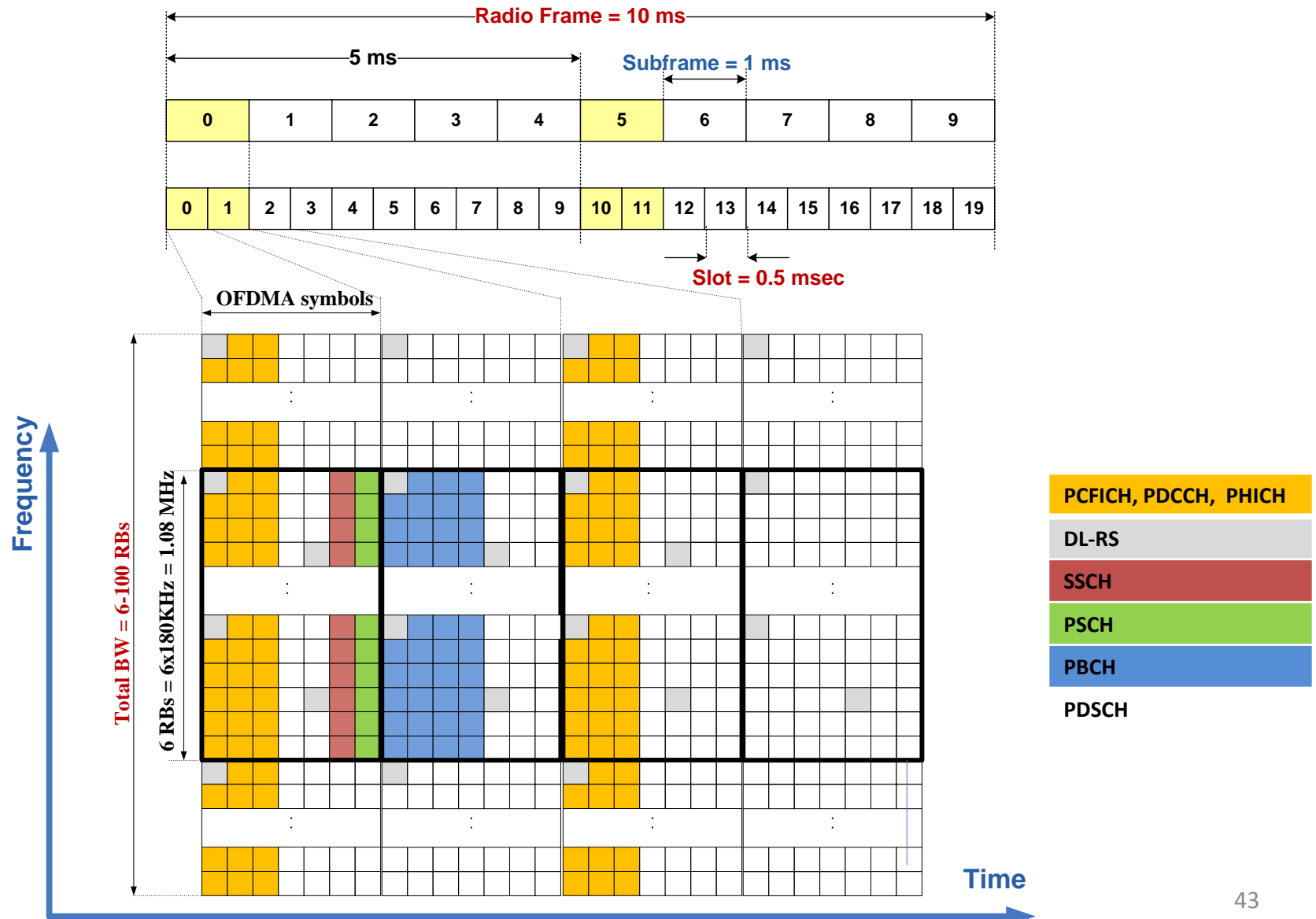
Examples of Inventions in the Area of ePDCCH Configuration and Signaling 2/2

- Resource block assignment for ePDCCH radio resources
 - PCT/US12/44665, PCT/US12/45342, EP2564611 A1, EP2564612 A1, 14/194704
- ePDCCH capability message and configuration
 - US8,526,459, US8,531,990, US8,571,056, 13/956,640, PCT/US12/67499
- Handover signaling and ePDCCH configuration
 - US8,531,990, 13/956,640, 14/042,840, PCT/US12/67499
- Backhaul X2 signaling implementation for ePDCCH ICIC coordination
 - 13/887,408
- Configuration of legacy PDCCH resources to reduce inter-cell interference
 - 13/850,228

New Carrier Type in R-13 and Beyond

- Enhances spectral efficiency of legacy LTE carriers by reducing signaling overhead
- Enhances flexibility in network deployment
- Increases peak data rate
- Discussed in Release-12 of LTE-Advanced Standard, but pushed back to Release-13

Radio Resource Organization and NTC



Examples of Inventions in the Area of New Carrier Type

- Broadcast signaling configuration
 - PCT/US12/45342, EP2564612 A1, US8,369,280
- Carrier synchronization in new carrier type
 - EP2564611 A, PCT/US12/44665
- HARQ feedback channels in new carrier type
 - US8,582,527
- Data/control radio resources in new carrier type
 - PCT/US12/45342, EP2564612 A1
- Configuration parameters for new carrier type
 - PCT/US12/67499, 13/691,714, US8,369,280, US8,427,976, US8,427,976
- Handover signaling and new carrier type configuration
 - PCT/US12/67499, US8,446,844, 13/691,714, 14/194754

Claim Analysis

- Detailed claim charts are available for ALL the 35 patents/applications
 - Claims are mapped to LTE standards
 - Implementation aspects are described for exemplary products and services
- Patents are mainly applicable to 3GPP 36 series of standards, including:
 - 3GPP TS 36.213: E-UTRA Physical layer procedures
 - 3GPP TS 36.300: E-UTRA and E-UTRAN Overall description; Stage 2
 - 3GPP TS 36.331: E-UTRA RRC Protocol specification
 - 3GPP TS 36.211: E-UTRA Physical channels and modulation
 - 3GPP TS 36.321: E-UTRA MAC protocol specification
 - 3GPP TS 36.423: E-UTRAN X2 Application Protocol (X2AP)
 - 3GPP TS 36.104: E-UTRA BS radio transmission and reception

Claim Charts

- Claim charts of the patents related to Release-13 standards provides an analysis of the claim based on the features that are likely to be included in Release-13 standards. Release-13 will be available in 2016.
- Claim charts of the patents related to LTE-Advanced implementation provide a possible infringement scenario. Reverse engineering is required to complete these claim charts.

| Claim Charts applicable to | No. of Patents |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Release-11 Standards | 17 |
| LTE-Advanced Implementation | 2 |
| Release-13 Standards | 16 |
| Total | 35 |

Conclusions

- This patent asset acquisition/licensing provides great opportunities to:
 - Vendors and service providers for defensive and offensive purposes
 - Investors and NPEs to license the patent assets
- The portfolio is available for sale/licensing immediately
- Acquisition/licensing of the patent portfolio provides a great return on investment

Appendix

Advantages of Invented Technologies in Ofinno LTE-Advanced Portfolio

Overview:

ePDCCH configurations are included in LTE-Advanced Release-11 handsets and networks, and they provide substantial advantages and will be required by LTE-Advanced service operators. Various features related to New Carrier Type are expected to be introduced in Release-13 and beyond, to increase spectral efficiency in LTE-Advanced technology. This article discusses these technologies and their importance.

1. ePDCCH Configuration and Signaling in R-11

ePDCCH is the enhanced Physical Downlink Control Channel specified in Release-11 of LTE to enhance the capacity, performance, and capability of the legacy PDCCH. This feature is an optional feature in LTE-Advanced Release-11, but it is a critical feature and is expected to be implemented in LTE-Advanced handsets and base stations. LTE-Advanced implementations without ePDCCH cannot benefit from the improved control channel spectral efficiency provided by ePDCCH. Furthermore, an LTE-Advanced deployment without ePDCCH is not suitable for implementation of co-channel heterogeneous networks, in which different femto, pico and micro/macro base stations operate in the same frequency.

The article “Enhanced Physical Downlink Control Channel in LTE Advanced Release 11” published in *IEEE Communications Magazine*, in February 2013 (by three Alcatel-Lucent R&D team members) highlights the issues and bottlenecks of using PDCCH in LTE-Advanced and describes the importance of implementing ePDCCH in an LTE-Advanced Network. The article indicates that low spectral efficiency, low capacity, and lack of scalability are the main drawbacks of using PDCCH alone in LTE-Advanced networks. The article highlights the importance of ePDCCH to resolve these issues, and further explains that ePDCCH enables inter-cell interference coordination (ICIC) for control channels in a dense network implementation and heterogeneous networks including small cells.

Wireless service operators including Verizon, AT&T, and Sprint have extensively deployed femto cell products. It is forecasted that with the start of LTE-Advanced implementation, deployment of the femto/small cells and heterogeneous network will see a substantial increase by 2016. For instance, Infonetics forecasts the global small cell market to grow rapidly, with about 3 million small cells shipping, and the market worth being about \$2.1 billion in 2016 (<http://www.infonetics.com/pr/2012/2H11-Small-Cell-Equipment-Market-Highlights.asp>). Such a large scale deployment of small cells requires implementing ICIC techniques which in turn require configuration of ePDCCH in future LTE-Advanced networks. Therefore, it is certain that service operators will require implementation of ePDCCH in LTE-Advanced products. Discussions with LTE-Advanced technology experts in service operators indicate that major LTE wireless service operators have already included implementation of ePDCCH in their future LTE-Advanced network expansion roadmap.

Furthermore, 3GPP TS 36.523-1, “User Equipment (UE) conformance specification; Part 1: Protocol conformance specification” for LTE-Advanced Release-11 already includes detailed protocol conformance specification for testing ePDCCH. Section “7.1.3.14: Correct handling of DL assignment / Dynamic case / EPDCCH” describes various test cases for certifying the operation of ePDCCH in an LTE-Advanced smartphone (UE). This indicates the importance of ePDCCH configuration and operation in an LTE-Advanced Release-11 network.

2. New Carrier Type in R-13 and Beyond

Introduction of New Carrier Type (NCT) enhances spectral efficiency of legacy LTE carriers by reducing signaling overhead. It also reduces interference from common reference signals in co-channel heterogeneous deployments. Many handset and base station vendors are actively contributing to this item in LTE-Advanced standardization process. NCT was initially planned for LTE Release 12 but its development has been pushed back to LTE Release 13 and beyond. The following are quotations from whitepapers published by NSN, Ericsson, and Huawei, as a few examples: <http://www.slideshare.net/zahidtg/lte-release-12-and-beyond> (NSN):

“The New Carrier Type will allow the optimization of small cells but can also be used in macro cells. Primarily, NCT will reduce common reference signal overhead and allow the operation of downlink control channels to be based on demodulation reference signals, in a stand-alone NCT solution. These generic optimizations are expected to be implemented in LTE Release 12

and will enable base station energy savings, flexibility in deployment and ways to reduce interference in HetNets, as well as performance gains for four transmit antenna and eight transmit antenna macro base station configurations. NCT can optimize small cell deployments through a significantly shortened latency and an extremely flexible duplex scheme.”

www.ericsson.com/res/docs/whitepapers/wp-lte-release-12.pdf:

“The energy consumption of the power amplifiers currently available is far from proportional to the power-amplifier output power. On the contrary, the power amplifier consumes a non-negligible amount of energy even at low output power, for example when only limited control signaling is being transmitted within an “empty” cell.

Minimizing the transmission activity of such “always-on” signals is essential, as it allows base stations to turn off transmission circuitry when there is no data to transmit. Eliminating unnecessary transmissions also reduces interference, leading to improved data rates at low to medium load in both homogeneous as well as heterogeneous deployments. A new carrier type is considered for Release 12 to address these issues. Part of the design has already taken place within 3GPP, with transmission of cell-specific reference signals being removed in four out of five sub frames. Network energy consumption can be further improved by enhancements to idle-mode support.”



[www.huawei.com/ilink/en/download/HW_259010:](http://www.huawei.com/ilink/en/download/HW_259010)

“Flexible spectrum utilization is a clear trend in the wireless industry. Carrier Aggregation technology introduced in LTE Rel-10 enables non-contiguous spectrum utilization and much more bandwidth support through combining the bandwidth from multiple component carriers. It is possible to further improve the spectrum efficiency of some component carriers with flexible bandwidth utilization and on-demand usage of common channels/signals that are part of the Rel-12 NCT work item.”



THANK YOU!

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