BARRD - Broadband Access for Rural Regeneration with DVB-RCS

Applications: Satcom Network Systems and Services

"... satellite will have an important role to play in the mix of technologies that will be a part in bridging the digital divide in rural or less privileged areas of Europe"
PriceWaterhouseCoopers

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PROJECT PARTNERS:

Rural Solutions (UK)
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PROFILE:

Countries across the European Union are beginning to appreciate the benefits that rural regeneration can bring to both quality of life and the environment. There is a growing trend of knowledge-based workers migrating from the cities to the countryside to establish small businesses or take up tele-working.

However, one problem that has the potential to slow down this trend is the lack of broadband connectivity to many potential business locations. For a number of years it was believed that ADSL and cable technologies would provide low cost broadband communications for all. However, it is now clear that this will never be the case.

In order to provide the benefits of broadband to businesses in remote locations a different solution is required, a solution that is cost effective, quickly deployable and adaptable to the many varied circumstances encountered in the rural community. To this end, Avanti is conducting a trial of Wireless Internet Points of Presence (WIPoP) in 20 rural business parks across the UK. The WIPoPs employ a combination of technologies, using DVB-RCS to provide back-haul communications and un-licensed 2.4 GHz wireless technology for "last mile" connections.

The project will demonstrate the power of DVB-RCS in providing communications that meets the needs of businesses:

- An "always on", two-way service
- A secure means of transmitting data
- A cost effective solution
- Fair access to bandwidth
- Tiered service levels.

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Satellite Applications