

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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## **FTS for Bluetooth Is World's First Protocol Analyzer Capable Of Sniffing Mixed Piconets That Simultaneously Contain V1.1 and V1.2 Traffic**

***Groundbreaking Technology To Be Demonstrated At The Upcoming Bluetooth World Congress Is Available Now. Scatternet Support Coming Next!***

Charlottesville, VA, USA – June 6, 2003 – Frontline Test Equipment, Inc., the emerging leader in Bluetooth protocol analysis, today announced that a Bluetooth chipmaker is using a new version of Frontline's FTS<sup>®</sup> for Bluetooth<sup>®</sup> protocol analyzer to sniff mixed piconets that simultaneously contain V1.1 and V1.2 traffic.

Frontline will demonstrate this groundbreaking technology in booth 306 at the upcoming Bluetooth World Congress. A pre-release of this version of FTS for Bluetooth is available now, with a production release expected in late June.

The air sniffing hardware consists of two finger-sized Bluetooth ComProbes<sup>®</sup> that plug into two USB ports and together weigh a total of 2 ounces (57 grams). For PCs that don't have two USB ports, a small, self-powered USB hub is included. Support for mixed piconets is a \$500 option (US list price) and can be added at any time. This means the total price for a unit of FTS for Bluetooth capable of mixed piconet sniffing is \$9,995 (US list).

Sniffing a mixed piconet requires that two different frequency hopping patterns be followed. This is because V1.2 traffic can take advantage of a new V1.2 feature known as Adaptive Frequency Hopping (AFH) that is used to improve data throughput by avoiding channels where interference is detected. The FTS for Bluetooth solution to this sniffing challenge is to use one Bluetooth ComProbe to sniff V1.1 traffic and the other Bluetooth ComProbe to sniff V1.2 traffic. The sniffed data is then combined, based on timing information, and presented in a single user interface.

Frontline plans to use this same technique to support Bluetooth scatternets that consist of multiple piconets. In anticipation of scatternet support, which is expected to be available during late summer, the USB hub that Frontline has selected has four ports.

The mixed piconet solution that is available now has a secondary application that will benefit users who aren't sniffing mixed piconets—the two Bluetooth ComProbes can be setup to provide redundant sniffing of homogeneous V1.1 or V1.2 piconets. This will help solve the nagging issue that all current air sniffers suffer from of missing packets due to the passive nature of sniffing that precludes the possibility of the sniffer requesting retransmission of a missed packet.

Eric Kaplan, President of Frontline Test Equipment, commented, "I'm thrilled to be able to provide a reasonably priced solution to the mixed piconet problem. I am also very pleased that FTS for Bluetooth's innovative design will allow us to provide a cost-effective and highly portable scatternet sniffer." Kaplan continued, "It feels really good to be ahead of the curve in terms of supporting Bluetooth developers. Our mixed piconet and scatternet solutions will be available BEFORE most developers need them. Since I've been involved with Bluetooth I can't ever remember having something before a customer asked for it!"

## **About FTS for Bluetooth**

FTS for Bluetooth is emerging as the industry's leading protocol analyzer . Some of the reasons why include: Realtime operation that allows you to analyze data as it is captured (capture, display, decode, filter and detect errors all at the same time), highly portable, finger-sized, air sniffing hardware, excellent piconet synchronization, enhanced support for Park, Hold, and Sniff low power modes, quad-mode sniffing (air, serial HCI, USB HCI, and Virtual), single-click protocol filtering, familiar tree (Explorer style) protocol decode display, TCP/IP support comparable to an Ethernet analyzer, built-in support for user-define decodes and HCI Vendor Extensions, and highly detailed protocol decodes.

## **About Frontline Test Equipment, Inc.**

Founded in 1991, Frontline Test Equipment, Inc. designs, develops, markets, and supports cost-effective, PC-based data communication test tools for the computer and communications industries. (Please see [www.fte.com](http://www.fte.com) for details.) Frontline is headquartered in Charlottesville, Virginia, USA. The worldwide installed base of Frontline data communication analyzers and testers exceeds 30,000.

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