

PRESS RELEASE

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NTS Adopts Frontline's FTS4ZB Protocol Analyzer For IEEE 802.15.4/ZigBee Certification Testing

Test, Debug, and Verification Tool is Now de Facto Industry Standard

Oslo, Norway – June 15, 2005 – National Technical Systems, Inc., (NTS) a quality assurance leader, announced today that it has standardized on using Frontline's FTS4ZB™ IEEE 802.15.4/ZigBee™ protocol analyzer for carrying out ZigBee certification testing. NTS test engineers use FTS4ZB to capture data via "air sniffing" and then use FTS4ZB's powerful decoding system and user interface to compare captured data against the ZigBee specification.

FTS4ZB is the industry's first comprehensive ZigBee protocol analyzer. FTS4ZB air sniffs ZigBee and IEEE 802.15.4 data and decodes the entire ZigBee stack, live and in real-time. Captured packets are displayed in a variety of formats, from raw binary and hex through detailed, fully decoded, field-by-field descriptions. Packets with error are flagged in red enabling users to quickly and easily identify problems.

Dmitri Grigorev of NTS, Vice Chairman of the ZigBee Qualification group commented: "Our testing confirms that FTS4ZB is a reliable and versatile ZigBee analyzer. It provides accurate data capture and complete protocol decoding."

Eric Kaplan, Frontline President, added: "Selection by NTS is important to us. It validates our approach of providing a family of tools that build on a common product architecture. We were able develop FTS4ZB quickly and can sell it for a relatively low price because a lot of FTS4ZB is based on work we've done to support other communication technologies—both wired and unwired. Our approach has other user benefits as well. For example, a developer that needs to look at ZigBee data coming over the air and then re-look at that same data on a wired Ethernet only has to learn one user interface."

Companies developing ZigBee products should be able to greatly reduce development cost and time to market by using FTS4ZB. Not only will their debugging and testing be more efficient, but they are likely to get through certification testing more smoothly. Because they'll be using the same tool as NTS to check their work prior to submitting their products to NTS, problems are likely to be caught earlier in the development cycle, where they are less expensive to correct.

About Frontline Test Equipment, Inc.

With over sixteen years of experience developing protocol analysis tools, and an installed base of more than 30,000 analyzers, Frontline is a proven protocol analyzer industry leader. Frontline Test System® (FTS®) software supports serial, Ethernet, Bluetooth, USB, ZigBee, and numerous industrial protocols and buses such as Modbus, DH+, and DeviceNet. www.fte.com.

About NTS (National Technical Systems, Inc.)

National Technical Systems, Inc. is a business-to-business services company providing organizations in the aerospace, defense, information technology (IT) and high technology markets integrated testing, certification, quality registration, systems evaluation and IT staffing services. www.ntscorp.com.

Frontline®
Industrial Strength Protocol Analyzers



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