Press Release

LoRa Alliance™ Announces Winner Of The Second Annual Global IoT Challenge For Innovation

Sponsored by The Kenya Red Cross the competition focused on using the LoRaWAN™ protocol for applications aimed at improving the lives of those living in marginalized communities

BARCELONA, Spain – March 08, 2017 — The LoRa Alliance™, the global association of over 400 companies backing the LoRaWAN™ standard for Low Power Wide Area IoT (Internet of Things) Networks, today announced the winner of its second global IoT challenge focused on creating a safer and smarter sustainable world featuring four solution submission categories: food, water, health and safety.

IoT Challenge Winner

OMEDS: *Bill Powers* of PIX CONTROLLER

The OMEDS solution (Optical Methane Emissions Detection System) detects methane gas build up before serious health and safety issues occurs. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency highlights methane as responsible for 25 percent of global warming, trapping 80 times more heat than carbon dioxide. According to the U.S. National Institute for Health, methane in its gas form is an asphyxiant and exposure even at relatively low levels can cause health problems. Current detection methods are manual and costly to implement with an average annual cost of $24-36,000 USD per detection site. A lack of accurate data has also been an issue. Now the OMEDS revolutionary solution has the real potential to provide significant ROI and achieve considerable climate benefits.

"The technological properties of LoRaWAN are uniquely well-suited to environmental monitoring applications like OMEDS," said Powers. "The combination of range, reliability and battery life with affordable pricing models open the door to prevent environmental disasters in ways that were previously untenable."

Finalists

Io3's *(pronounced Io-"Trees"): Tal Yechye & Zvika Grinberg of* AGRINT SENSING SOLUTIONS LTD.

IoTree leverages LoRaWAN to provide a cutting edge solution for early detection of pests attacking palm trees. According to Mother Nature Network, more than 2,500 species of palm trees around the world provide critical staples including palm oil and coconut as well as dates, betel nuts and acai fruit. Two percent of palm trees are infected every year by the Red Palm Weevil, a flying insect which lays its eggs inside the trees. The IoTree sensor detects larvae at an early stage and provides the owner with a tangible ROI in terms of reducing costs and use of pesticides and losses associated with dead trees.

MediFridge: *Gowri Sankar Ramachandran & Trisha Phippard, Piers Lawrence of* KU LEUVEN

Cold chain is of critical importance to the medical community for the transport of temperature sensitive medications, blood and other biomedical supplies. Up until now this has not been readily available within the health sector of developing countries. Using a LoRaWAN network, MediFridge's solution ensures temperatures are maintained during the transit of medicine to preserve and ensure that the medicine is safe to administer to those in need. This ready-to-market product will transform the care of people in remote communities.

"We are delighted to have LoRaWAN open the door to these and other world-changing solutions," said Geoff Mulligan, chairman of the LoRa Alliance. "LoRaWAN is ideal for regions that have little or no infrastructure in the developing world and we look forward to extending connectivity to address important social and environmental issues as innovators like these continue to apply their problemsolving skills to developing new applications."

The second annual LoRa Alliance IoT Challenge was sponsored by The Kenya Red Cross and focused on improving the lives of those living in marginalized communities. All three finalists presented products that are ready to deploy in the field.

The winning entry will now travel to Kenya for testing in collaboration with The Red Cross.

"These winning applications demonstrate the role technology can play in improving the lives of the most marginalized communities in the developing world," said Safia Verjee, program manager in Disaster Risk Management at The Kenya Red Cross. "We are very excited to begin the process of validation with the OMEDS solution with the hopes of deploying a new environmental solution that can help protect the environment and the quality of life of people everywhere."

About LoRa™ Alliance

The LoRa Alliance is an open, non-profit association which has grown to over 400 members since its inception in March 2015, becoming one of the largest and fastest growing alliances in the technology sector. Its members are closely collaborating and sharing their experience to promote the LoRaWAN protocol as the leading open global standard for secure, carrier-grade IoT LPWA connectivity. With

Alliance

Technology

Developers

Testimonials

The LoRaWAN technology is ideal to target battery operated sensors and low power applications as a complement to M2M cellular connectivity

Richard Viel
Chief Operating Officer of Bouygues

With LoRaWAN, entire cities or countries can be covered with a few base stations, no longer requiring the upfront rollout and maintenance of thousands of nodes as in traditional mesh networking. This has made IoT possible now, with minimal infrastructure investment.

Olivier Hersent
Chairman & CTO of Actility

To encourage the mass adoption of low cost, long range machine-to-machine connectivity, open ecosystems are critical. In addition to IBM's support of the LoRA Alliance we have also released the IBM 'LoRaWAN in C' as open source under the Eclipse Public License.

Dr. Thorsten Kramp
Master Inventor, IBM Research

LoRaWAN has taken inteliLIGHT, our already proven street lighting management solution, to a whole new level. The entire system becomes even easier and faster to install, with a minimal investment, unprecedented reach and unlimited Smart City applications. It truly is a game changer.

Mozes Lorand
CEO of FLASHNET

Low Power Wide Area (LPWA) Networks are an excellent connectivity solution. They complement well with existing M2M business.
In order to deploy dedicated solutions and sensors all around the world, an open standard is needed to ensure

the technical flexibility to address the multiple IoT applications, both static and mobile, and a certification program to guarantee interoperability, LoRaWAN has already being deployed by major mobile network operators globally and is anticipated to widely expand in 2017.

About LoRaWAN™

The technology utilized in a LoRaWAN network is designed to connect low-cost, battery-operated sensors over long distances in harsh environments that were previously too challenging or cost-prohibitive to connect. With its unique penetration capability, a LoRaWAN gateway deployed on a building or tower can connect to sensors more than 10 miles away or to water meters deployed underground or in basements. The LoRaWAN protocol offers unique and unequaled benefits in terms of bi-directionality, security, mobility and accurate localization that are not addressed by other LPWAN technologies. These benefits will enable the diverse use cases and business models that will enable deployments of LPWAN IoT networks globally.

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interoperability.Therefore, the LoRaWAN R1.0 protocol is a major step for the LoRa Alliance and its supporting members.

Geert Standaert
Chief Technology Officer, Proximus

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