

Introduction to Cobham Broadcast

COFDM - Video, Audio Telemetry and IP Products

COBHAM

June 2011 Information Sheet

The most important thing we build is trust



Event coverage and news gathering in the broadcast industry was revolutionised in 2001 with the introduction of Digital Wireless Camera Systems. The COFDM modulation used to transmit the signals enabled true non-Line Of Sight (NLOS) operation for the first time – giving producers complete freedom of movement and the ability to ‘go live’ from previously unusable locations. The lack of cables not only afforded less rigid parking requirements for SNG vehicles, it meant quicker rig/de-rig times, hence better utilisation of staff and facilities.

Ten years on, little has changed in terms of the technology used to power these systems in the broadcast industry. However, in the surveillance sector there have been some exciting developments, all of which are applicable to broadcasting.

Cobham is the market-leading supplier of COFDM Video, Audio and Data transmission products to the surveillance and law enforcement industries and, as such, has been at the forefront in developing these new technologies. In recognition that much of this technology is equally applicable to broadcasting, Cobham has now formed a focused team to bring these to market in form-factors and with features broadcasters can easily use.

Why Choose Cobham?

Technology: Cobham’s technical ability and capacity to develop new products is well ahead of the market. Its total control over encoding and modulation processes and use of FPGAs, rather than fixed ASICs, gives it a unique ability to quickly add new features, improve performance and address customers’ specific requirements. Cobham’s HD broadcast systems employ next-generation low-delay H.264 encoding. The increased encoding efficiency enables users to transmit at reduced

bit-rates with no loss in quality. This means more robust modulation schemes can be used, giving increased range and a reduction in the amount of receive hardware required. Cobham systems are also extremely compact and consume significantly less power – typically 60% less than equivalent MPEG2 systems.

Going forward, techniques already developed for the surveillance sector – such as bi-directional, single-frequency COFDM systems and MESH networking – will be rolled out into the broadcast product range in due course.

Quality: In the surveillance industry, people’s lives often depend on Cobham products – they are therefore designed to be robust and extremely reliable. All of the company’s broadcast products are designed and manufactured to the same high standards.

Pricing: As the market leader in the supply of COFDM equipment to the surveillance industry, Cobham ships a very high volume of product. This helps keep material costs down, which can then be reflected in lower end-user pricing.

Client List: The ever-increasing list of broadcast customers includes:

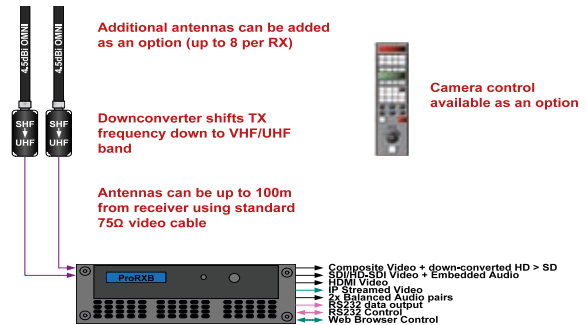
BBC; Sky UK (News Corp); VRT, Belgium; France 2; Riedel, Germany; Presteigne Charter (Ryder Cup 3D); TVE Spain; Visual TV France; Danish Radio and TV, Denmark; Broadcast RF UK; ARD Germany; ZDF, Germany; Huanjia Broadcast, Beijing; Alltech Broadcasting; Shenzhen, China; Vietnam TV; National Thai TV; Digicom, South Korea

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Basic System:



Key Products:

SOLO ENG H.264 TX



- Rugged construction – designed for News gathering environment
- Mounts directly to any ENG camera with standard V-mount or AB battery plates
- H.264 SD and HD Encoding requires lower TX bit-rates, increasing range and maximising link capacity
- Low power consumption of 10W for extended battery run times
- Composite/SDI/HD-SDI/HDMI inputs

SOLO H.264 TX



- For use with non-ENG cameras, motorsport and airborne applications
- Ultra light weight – only 400g
- H.264 SD and HD Encoding
- Composite/SDI/HD-SDI/HDMI inputs
- ASI in/out
- 10W power consumption

PRORXB Receiver



- Up to 8 antenna inputs with true MaxRC diversity for outstanding RF performance
- SD MPEG2 & SD/HD H.264 decoding for compatibility with existing systems
- Composite/SDI/HD-SDI and HDMI outputs
- Down-converted HD>SD output option
- VOIP streaming option
- On-screen display for RX metrics
- Web-browser and RS232 control

Camera Control



- Uses camera manufacturers own OCPs
- Control of up to 4 cameras via single UHF channel
- Green and red tally lights
- 2-box (truck-mount & outdoor unit) system enables flexible TX antenna location via standard audio cable
- Wide frequency range of 403-473MHz for increased flexibility

SOLO NanoVue



- Ultra-compact COFDM SD receiver with built-in touch screen control
- Ideal for Steadicam reverse vision or wireless talent monitor/autocue
- Video/audio output
- Optional VOIP streaming output

SOLO Drop Camera



- Combined SD camera, mic, COFDM TX and 3-hour battery in one package
- Ideal as a quick-to-rig background scene camera

All product specifications are subject to change without notice. Cobham Tactical Communications and Surveillance will not be liable for technical or editorial errors or omissions.

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