



MiriforceTM
Broadcast Technologies

Press Release
Miriforce: MiriATE announcement

31 March 2008

Miriforce announces the release of MiriATE

Miriforce Ltd, the developer of MiriMON, the system for real-time monitoring of live Digital TV networks, release their new automated set-top box testing product – MiriATE.

31 March 2008 - Miriforce Ltd has released MiriATE, a modular, scalable solution for the automated testing of set-top boxes (STBs).

By controlling the behaviour, inputs and environment of the STB, and at the same time measuring the box outputs, MiriATE provides automated testing which enables quick fault analysis.

Geoff Aitken, Business Development Manager at Miriforce, says, “MiriATE is the world’s most powerful automated test environment for STBs. We are confident that at least 75% of testing, which is currently carried out manually, can be automated by MiriATE. This would result in halving the cost of testing. No one else in the marketplace has the same offering.”

MiriATE can be used in a number of environments - from the network operator to the STB manufacturer. As well as being ideally suited to acceptance and regression testing it is also an invaluable development tool. As manufacturers no longer own the entire hardware and software stack, assigning faults to the correct component vendors is a real challenge in a modern device integration project. MiriATE provides reliable, quantitative evidence to allow correct fault assignment in such cases.

“A key component is the audio/video analysis. This feature uses motion detection technology to test the video output of the STBs. This allows for testing of video presence, menu recognition and driving interactive TV applications. Other techniques supported include screen region comparison and text recognition from live video across all STBs under test. This provides detailed information to assist fault diagnosis, and means that the time to

market and the total cost of testing for the supplier is significantly reduced,” says Geoff Aitken.

The standard deployment of MiriATE is a 16 STB solution, and due to the system’s scalability, this increases in increments of 16 to very large systems of 384 boxes or more.

Paul Tinkler, Chief Executive of Mirifice, one of the founding Directors of the company, said, “ We are very excited about MiriATE. We recognise we have a unique offering. MiriATE is just not restricted to testing STBs, any device that is infrared controlled and has video coming out of it can be tested. There are so many opportunities for this product.”

For additional information on Mirifice, please contact info@mirifice.com:

Mirifice Ltd are headquartered in Bath, UK. Formed in 2004 they provide key software development, project management and consultancy staff to the broadcast industry. The company product range includes the award-winning MiriMON system for real-time monitoring of live Digital TV network deployments. Customers include BSkyB, BBC, Virgin Media, Top-Up TV, Comstar Direct, Pace MicroTechnology, Gateway Broadcast Services, Tandberg and Thomson.

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