Kerlink supplies CONNECT with IoT LoRaWan™ base stations to deploy Pervasive Nation network in Ireland

Thorigné-Fouillard, France and **Dublin**, Ireland - *21 March, 2017, 6:00 PM CET* - **Kerlink** (ALKLK - FR0013156007), a specialist and global leader in network solutions dedicated to the Internet of Things (IoT), and **CONNECT**, the Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre for Future Networks at Trinity College Dublin, are today announcing their partnership to deploy gateways for Pervasive Nation, a dedicated IoT research network based on LoRaWan™ low power, wide area network (LPWAN), in Ireland.

CONNECT was awarded €1.8 million by Science Foundation Ireland last year to build an Internet of Things research testbed known as Pervasive Nation. "Pervasive Nation is a resource for the Irish research community and is open to both academic and industrial researchers who want to test pre-commercial IoT ideas", details Dr Frank Smyth, Executive Director of CONNECT.

After a successful trial, CONNECT selected Kerlink as one of its LoRaWan™ gateway providers, and especially its Wirnet™ Stations and Wirnet™ IBTS products, for the new network which is being rolled-out initially at third level campuses across Ireland as part of a plan to provide nationwide IoT coverage. The procurement framework allows the network to scale up to 500 gateways nationwide.

"Kerlink Wirnet™ Stations and Wirnet™ IBTS are ideal for an IoT network like Pervasive Nation", explained Yannick Delibie, Kerlink co-founder and CTIO. "When installed on a high point like a water tower, these base stations are able to establish bidirectional communication with several thousand smart devices with a range of several kilometers. They are particularly suited to the needs of Pervasive Nation's Low Power Wide Area Network."

Pervasive Nation is using LoRaWan™ technology, which offers the combined benefits of long battery life for sensors (up to ten years), long range coverage in license-free ISM spectrum (up to 15 kilometers), and lower cost for connected devices. This will pave the way for research & development activity for new applications and innovative services in fields such as smart agriculture, smart cities and smart health.

"The Internet of Things is a fast-moving research area," according to Dr Frank Smyth, Executive Director of CONNECT, "and Pervasive Nation will provide the most advanced IoT technology. Our relationship with Kerlink, one of the founding members of the LoRa Alliance™, allows us to deploy the latest gateway capabilities mixing performance, scalability and reliability. This is a crucial part of the network."

CONNECT also reminds some key figures from market analysts: Gartner predicts connected things will reach 20.8 billion by 2020, while IDC targets global IoT revenue to reach $7.065B for the same period. According to Forrester Research, key topics for public sector in 2020 will be security & surveillance, facility management and energy management. For LPWA specifically, ABI Research estimates that the total number of connections will reach 4 billion in 2025.

About Kerlink

Kerlink specialises in network solutions for the Internet of Things (IoT). Its mission is to provide its clients – telecom carriers, businesses and public authorities – with network solutions (equipment, software and services) dedicated to the Internet of Things. Over the past three years, Kerlink has invested more than €8 million in R&D. In just over 10 years, more than 70,000 Kerlink installations have already been rolled out for more than 260 clients, including GrDF, Suez, Saur and Médiamétrie. In 2016, Kerlink generated revenues of €14.1 million, 25% of which internationally. Since 2013, it has posted average annual growth of more than 50%. Kerlink has been listed on Alternext Paris since May 2016.

For more information, visit www.kerlink.fr or follow us on Twitter @kerlink_news

About CONNECT

CONNECT is funded under the Science Foundation Ireland Research Centres Programme and is co-funded under the European Regional Development Fund. CONNECT is a multi-institute research centre headquartered at Trinity College Dublin with over 160 researchers at Cork Institute of Technology, Dublin City University, Dublin Institute of Technology, Maynooth University, University College Cork, University College Dublin, University of Limerick, TSSG at Waterford Institute of Technology and Tyndall National Institute, Cork.

For more information, visit   Pervasive Nation: http://www.pervasivenation.ie

                                            CONNECT Centre https://www.connectcentre.ie

About the LoRa Alliance™

The LoRa Alliance™ is an open, non-profit association that has grown to more than 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 the technical flexibility to address multiple IoT applications, both static and mobile, and a certification program to guarantee interoperability, the LoRaWAN™ is already being deployed globally by major mobile network operators 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 unequalled 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 large-scale LPWAN IoT networks globally.

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