

GENBAND announces successful participation at World's first femtocell plugfest

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Femto Forum's IOT Initiative, chaired by GENBAND, drives interoperability and adoption of industry standards



Dr. Natasha Tamaskar, Chair of the Femto Forum's IOT Initiative and GENBAND's Vice President of Product Marketing

GENBAND Inc., a leading developer of next-generation media, session and security gateway solutions, announced the company has completed comprehensive interoperability tests in the world's first femtocell plugfest. Initiated by the Femto Forum and organized in cooperation with the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI), the plugfest enjoyed broad vendor participation with more than 20 leading manufacturers of network equipment and femtocells as well as software and hardware components. During the event, GENBAND executed interoperability testing of its S2™ Security Gateway and G9™ Converged Gateway with multiple femtocell access point vendors.

“Bringing together the interoperability working group behind this initiative has been extremely beneficial for the Femto industry, as all the participating companies have demonstrated laser focus on resolving ambiguities in the interpretation of standards, reducing integration and customer support costs and fostering market and consumer confidence,” said Dr. Natasha Tamaskar, Chair of the Femto Forum's IOT Initiative and GENBAND's Vice President of Product Marketing. “These industry-wide efforts are vital to verifying the standard, creating a mechanism of feedback for ongoing improvements and ultimately driving mass market adoption. GENBAND's leadership role in these efforts is representative of the company's commitment to open ecosystems and to driving full end-to-end industry interoperability.”

The plugfest interoperability tests were conducted between femtocell network gateways, security gateways, femtocell access points and chipsets to verify 3GPP's Iuh interface as defined in the Release 8 series of specifications. The IPsec/IKEv2 security protocols that allow femtocells to communicate over the public Internet to operators' core networks in a highly secure manner were also tested. 3GPP's Release 8 femtocell standard was published in April 2009, and defines the secure interface between femtocell access points and femtocell gateways in the core network.

GENBAND's market leading femtocell gateway components, the G9 Converged Gateway and the S2 Security Gateway, provide the essential media and signaling adaptation required to bridge femtocell traffic into the mobile core and the vital IP Security tunnels necessary to protect the network. Through its complete product portfolio, GENBAND plays a key role in the majority of all femtocell trials and several live Femtocell deployments around the world.