# Bluetooth 4.0 Low Energy (BLE) Technology and RF Testing

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# Agenda

- Bluetooth Low Energy Technology and Market
- Bluetooth Low Energy Application examples
- Bluetooth Low Energy RF Testing with CBT
- Bluetooth Low Energy RF Testing with CMW



### **Bluetooth Specification Versions**

### June 2007

### Bluetooth Core Spec 2.1 + EDR

Basic Rate: 1 Mbit/s Enhanced Data Rate: 2 Mbit/s or 3 Mbit/s

### **April 2009**

### Bluetooth Core Spec 3.0 + HS same as Core Spec 2.1 + EDR plus

 Enhanced Power Control
Protocol Adaptation Layer (PAL) allows handover to high speed technologies like WLAN

Other protocol enhancements

### June 2010

Bluetooth Core Spec 4.0 same as Core Spec 3.0 + HS

*plus* Bluetooth Low Energy specification Bluetooth RF Test Specification 4.0 (RF.TS/4.0.2) same as RF Test Spec 2.1 plus • TX test case for Enhanced Power Control • There is no WLAN RF test case in this specification

**Bluetooth RF Test Specification 2.1** 

(RF.TS/2.1.E.0)

13 TX test cases 10 RX test cases

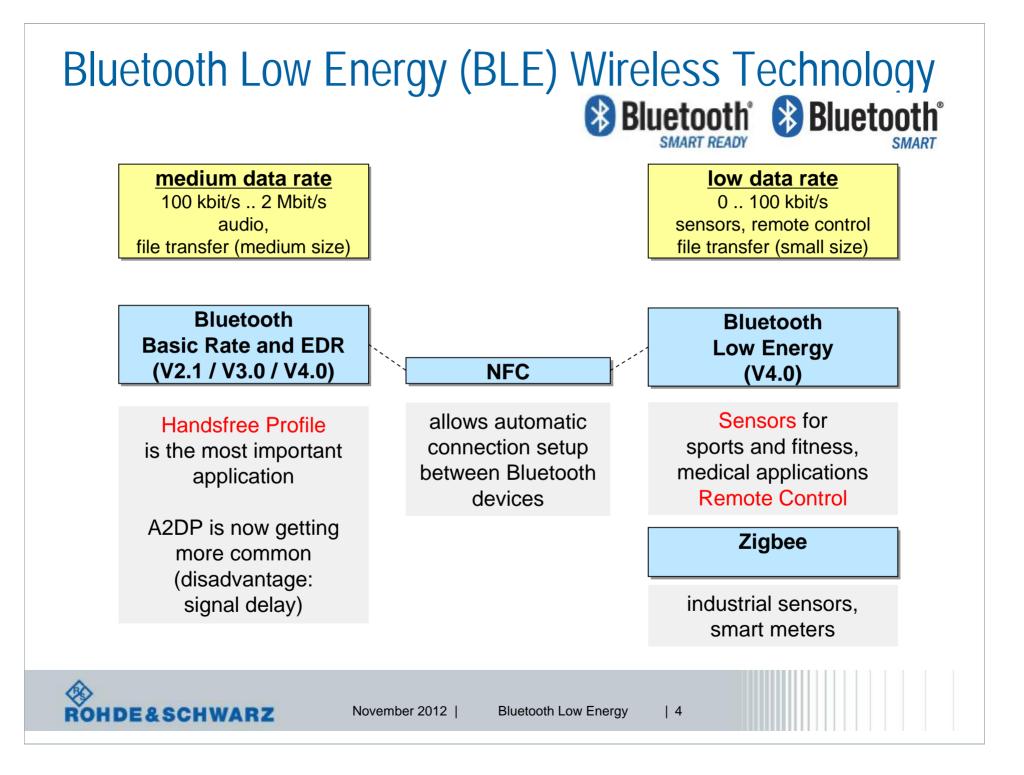
### Bluetooth Low Energy RF Test Specification

(RF-PHY.TS/4.0.1)

7 TX test cases

7 RX test cases





# Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) Wireless Technology

### Applications for Low Energy technology

I connect any coin cell powered device (e.g. watches, sensors for sports and healthcare, remote control units, ...) to other Bluetooth devices (e.g. mobile phones, PDAs, PCs, ...)

### BLE RF is similar to Bluetooth basic rate, but

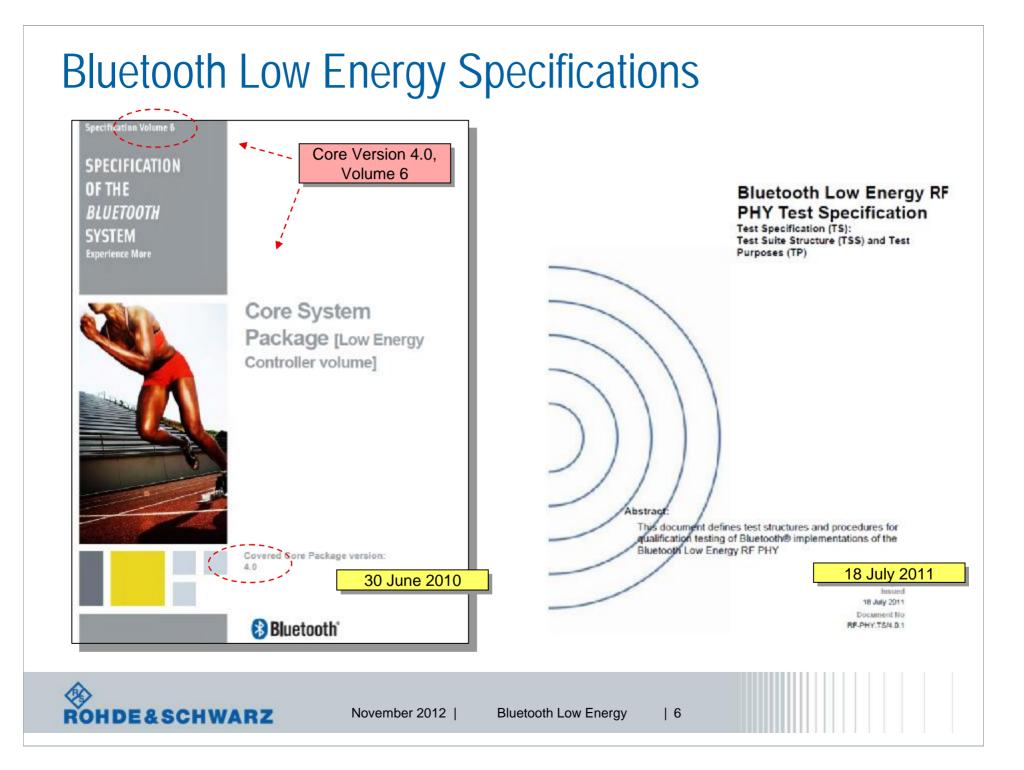
channel spacing 2 MHz, modulation index 0.5, different packet structure, pure TX and pure RX devices are possible

### Chipset vendors are currently developing Bluetooth LE chipsets

- I dual mode chipsets for use in mobile phones, PCs and PDAs
- single mode chipsets for Low Energy devices







# Bluetooth Low Energy RF Parameters

- Frequency band and channel arrangement
  - $f = 2402 + k^2 MHz, k = 0, ..., 39$
- I TX characteristics
  - power

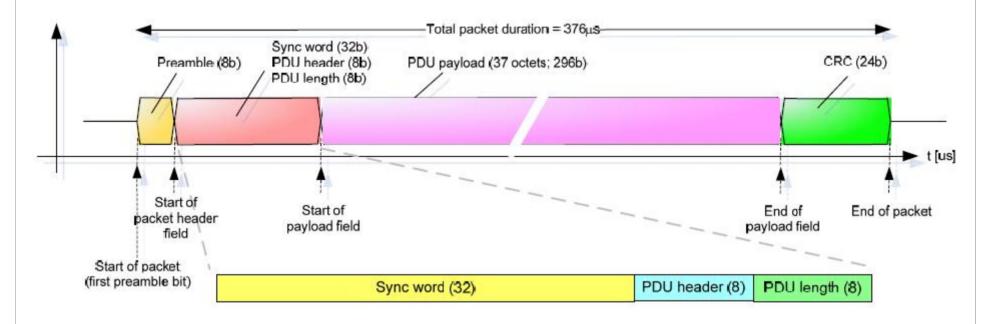
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- 0.01 mW (-20 dBm) ... 10 mW (+10 dBm)
- modulation
  - GFSK, BT=0.5, modulation index 0.45 .. 0.55 (freq. deviation 225 kHz .. 275 kHz)
- frequency tolerance
  - max. +/- 150 kHz anywhere in the packet
  - max. drift +/- 50 kHz within the packet
  - max. drift rate +/- 400 Hz/ $\mu$ s within the packet
- symbol rate
  - 1 mega-symbols per second (+/- 50 ppm)
- RX sensitivity level
  - < 70 dBm (at 0.1% BER)



# Bluetooth Low Energy Reference Test Packet for RF Testing



Bluetooth Low Energy

| 8

- RF test cases use the reference test packet with 37 octets
- RF test cases are performed with

E&SCHWARZ

- whitening off, frequency hopping off, maximum power

November 2012



- **2011:** Bluetooth SIG unveils on October 24th, 2011 the Bluetooth Smart mark family for all Low Energy capable devices
- 2010: 3 billion Bluetooth enabled devices on the market
- **2013: shipment of 2 billion Bluetooth enabled devices** 
  - Analyst research firm IMS estimates that by 2013, 1 billion *Bluetooth* low energy devices will be sold every year
- Most of the mobile phones will have Bluetooth integrated
  - exception is the very low cost market segment (5%)
- Bluetooth Low Energy market in 2012
  - Operating System support for Low Energy (Windows 8, WindowsPhone 8, Android, iOS)





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## Bluetooth Low Energy application example



Bluetooth<sup>®</sup>



Stethoscopes



Glucose Monitors







Pircure Source: www.bluetooth.com

November 2012 |

Bluetooth Low Energy

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Casio GB-6900

# Bluetooth Low Energy application example



Temperature sensor with Bluetooth LE chip

### AMC Navigenio. Your autopilot in the kitchen.



The AMC Navigenio is a miracle of modern kitchen technology and the crown jewel in the AMC Premium System. The exclusive high-tech hotplate with integral radio module controls the whole cooking process in radio contact with the Audiotherm fully automatically!

#### A universal genius in every household.

Fully automatic cooking in radio contact with the Audiotherm and fully automatic rapid cooking with the Navigenio and Secuquick: It doesn't get any faster or more convenient.

The most energy-saving oven in the world From toast to hold chickens, from pizzas to cakes: upside-down on top of the unit, baking, browning and crispy frying.

#### The mobile hotplate for kitchen and leisure

For fondues, raclettes, hot drinks, as a table grill and hotplates are keeping things warm. An enrichment for any party and celebration!

Bluetooth-controlled hotplate





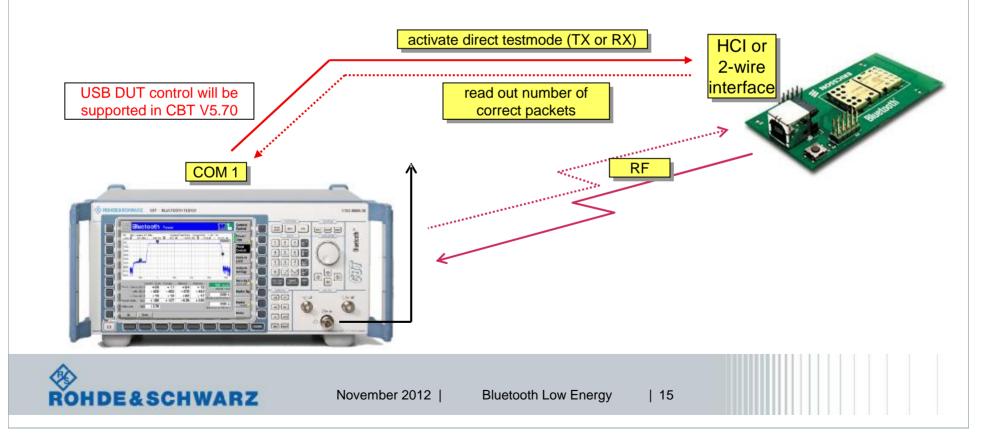
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# RF testing of Low Energy devices

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- All tests are performed without setting up an RF connection
- Local serial DUT interface (,HCI' or ,2-wire') allows to
  - switch the DUT into a direct testmode (TX or RX)
  - read out the number of correctly received packets (without CRC error)



# Low Energy RF Test Cases

I The Bluetooth Low Energy RF PHY Test Specification (RF-PHY.TS/4.0.0) contains the following test purposes:

### Transmitter tests

- TRM/CA-01-C (Output power at NOC)
- TRM/CA-02-C (Output power at EOC)
  - TRM/CA-03-C (In-band emissions at NOC)
- TRM/CA-04-C (In-band emissions at EOC)
- TRM/CA-05-C (Modulation characteristics)
- TRM/CA-06-C (Carrier frequency offset and drift at NOC)
- TRM/CA-07-C (Carrier frequency offset and drift at EOC)

### Receiver tests

- RCV/CA-01-C (Receiver sensitivity at NOC)
- RCV/CA-02-C (Receiver sensitivity at EOC)
- RCV/CA-03-C (C/I and receiver selectivity performance)
- RCV/CA-04-C (Blocking performance)
- RCV/CA-05-C (Intermodulation performance)
- RCV/CA-06-C (Maximum input signal level)
- RCV/CA-07-C (PER Report Integrity)

NOC: normal operating conditions EOC: extreme operating conditions





parametric tests

with CBT and

LE option

CBT-K57

All test cases supported

by CBTGo

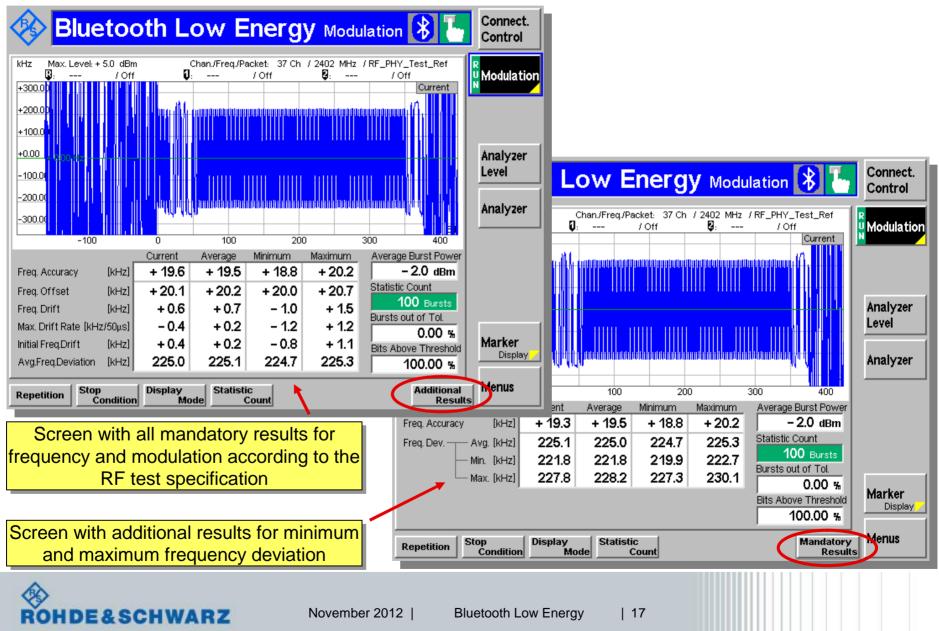
V2.2.0

these tests

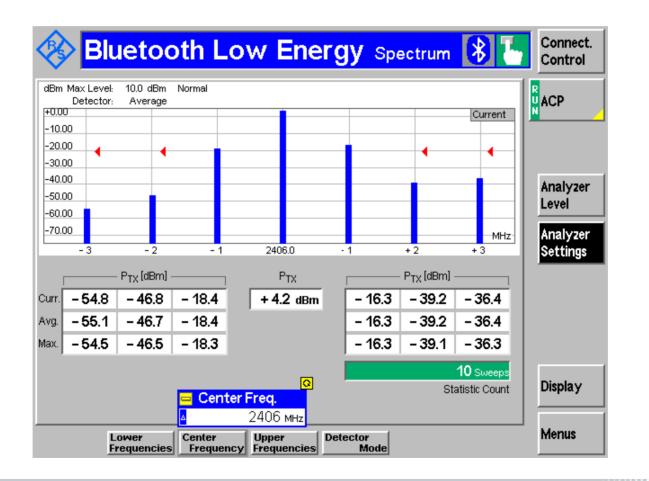
require

additional signal generator(s)

# **CBT Low Energy Modulation Analyzer**



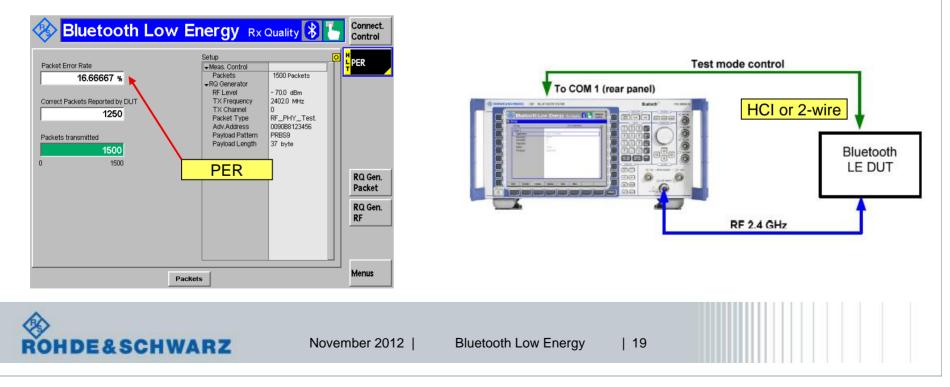
### CBT Low Energy Spectrum Measurement In-band emissions



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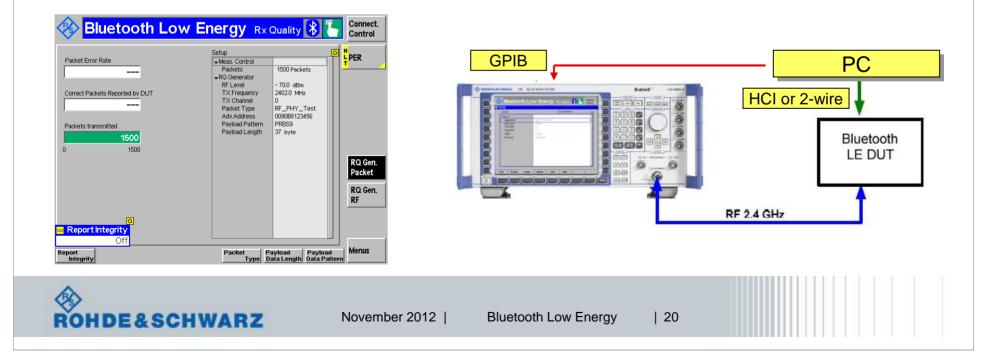
# CBT Low Energy Receiver Quality Tests

- I DUT direct test mode control from CBT
  - DUT is connected with CBT COM port (USB support planned for Q1/2013)
  - CBT enables DUT for RX test
  - CBT transmits a defined number of LE packets to the DUT
  - DUT checks the CRC of every packet and counts the number of correctly received packets
  - DUT reports the number of correct packets back to the CBT
  - CBT calculates and displays the PER result

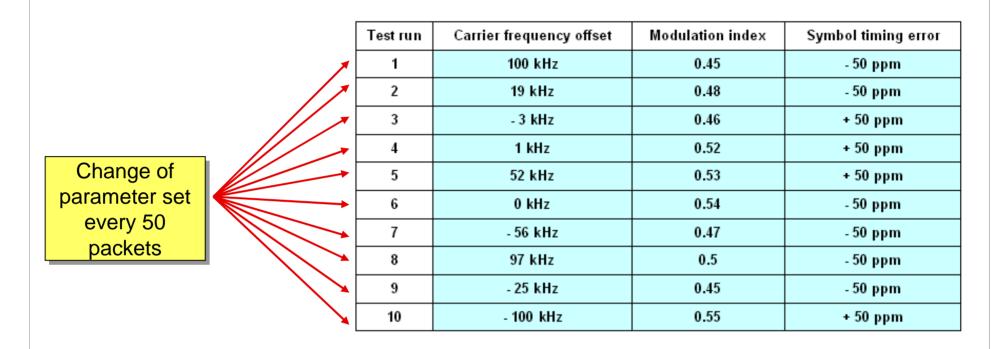


# **CBT Low Energy Receiver Quality Tests**

- DUT direct test mode control from external PC
  - DUT is connected with PC
  - PC enables DUT for PER test and starts CBT generator
  - CBT now transmits a defined number of LE packets to the DUT
  - DUT checks the CRC of every received packet and counts the number of correct packets
  - DUT reports the number of correct packets back to the PC
  - PC calculates and displays the PER result



# **CBT LE Generator - Dirty Transmitter**



Additional superposition of a frequency drift:

- Deviation +/- 50 kHz
- Modulation frequency 625 Hz
- Alternate packets switch start phase
  - between 0 and 180 degrees



## CBT-K57 – Low Energy Option Feature Set, Roadmap

- I CBT firmware V5.61 (available)
  - LE TX measurements:
    - DUT control via COM port for TX tests
    - power, modulation, frequency
    - in-band emissions (ACP) spectrum measurement
  - RX quality measurement displays PER result read out from DUT
    - DUT control via COM port for RX tests
    - dirty TX: 'Single Value' mode
    - dirty TX: 'Specification Table' mode (dynamic)
    - PER integrity check
    - Pseudo continuous mode for BLE PER tests
  - BLE generator:
    - continuous stream of packets dirty TX: single value mode
- CBT firmware V5.70 (Q1/2013)
  - USB support for direct test mode control



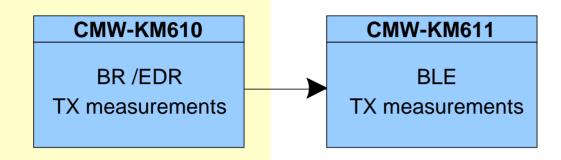
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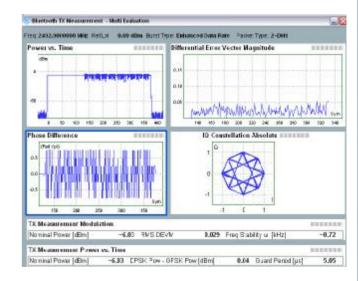


## Bluetooth, BR/EDR TX Measurements



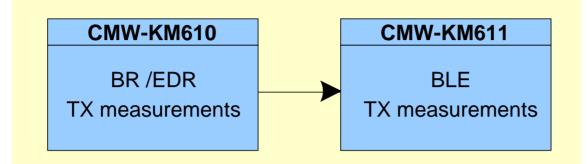
- Auto detection of input signal
- I Full set of TX measurements
  - Basic rate:
    - Nominal power
    - Frequency accuracy, frequency drift and max. drift rate
    - Frequency deviation
    - Spectrum 20 dB bandwidth
    - Spectrum adjacent channel power (79 channels)
  - Enhanced data rate
    - Nominal power (GFSK, DPSK)
    - Frequency stability  $\omega_i$  and  $\omega_{0 max}$  (drift)
    - Differential error vector magnitude
    - I/Q constellation diagram
    - Phase difference graph







### Bluetooth BLE TX Measurements



### Full set of TX measurements

- Power (average, peak, difference)
- Frequency accuracy
- Frequency drift (max., initial)
- Drift rate (max)
- Frequency deviation
- Spectrum adjacent channel power (in-band-spurious emissions)

