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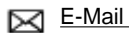
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## Boffins test 'smart radio' in Dublin

**Thursday April 19th 2007**

An international team of scientists will be conducting the world's first trials for leading-edge wireless communication technologies next week around the Dublin area.

Led by Ireland's Centre for Telecommunications Value Chain Research (CTVR) based in Trinity College Dublin, these researchers have been granted a special licence by Ireland's Commission for

Communications Regulation (ComReg) to use Irish airwaves as a testing space.

CTVR will be testing this new technology to ascertain how best to use the world's increasingly scarce radio wavebands through 'intelligent radio'.

CTVR was set up in Ireland in 2005 by Bell Labs with an investment of €69m and is spread across eight Irish third-level institutions with government funding from Science Foundation Ireland.

Some of the US, UK and European companies participating in these trials include Shared Spectrum Company, QiniteQ and Motorola Research Labs.

Professor Donal O'Mahony, director of CTVR, commented: "The trials will showcase cognitive or smart radio, innovative networks and emerging frequency technologies with a unique opportunity for companies worldwide to trial innovative wireless communications technologies."

Applications for these emerging technologies could include mobile phones that intelligently scan the airwaves for a less-crowded frequency.

The trials coincide with DySPAN, a series of conferences to be held next week in Dublin, in which more than 1,000 telecoms industry experts will gather to discuss the future of wireless communications.

O'Mahony said: "Ireland is an ideal base for experimental trials of the latest concepts and developments in wireless communications before deployment in target areas worldwide.

"The local research capacity, combined with ComReg's enlightened licensing policy, positions Ireland to be the wireless research community's spectrum playground," he continued.

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Last week it emerged that CTVR will work with US multinational Xilinx, which employs 450 people in west Dublin, to pioneer research into advanced future telecoms and networking systems.

This field involves exploring ways of enabling a mobile phone to intelligently alter its radio frequency system to work on any country's cellular phone network.


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By Marie Boran

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