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Time for narrowband

SOBHA MENON

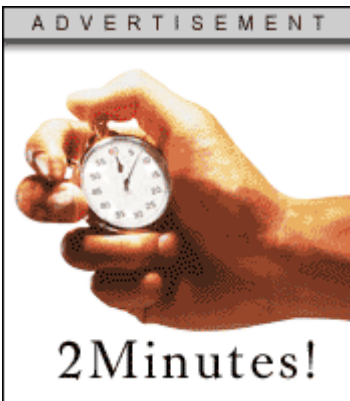
TIMES NEWS NETWORK [SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 09, 2003 12:46:34 AM]

After broadband, it's the turn of narrowband, wireless technology for wireless handheld devices. Already, a few hardware and software vendors are offering enterprise solutions catering to mission critical data communication needs of service organizations, such as the police, energy distribution companies etc.

HCL Infinet for instance, has tailored software applications for the Andhra Pradesh police around Mobitex, an international open standard for dedicated wireless data, developed by Ericsson. C V Ramanujam of HCL Infinet demonstrates how the software makes it simple for anyone in a local police station to record a complaint and send it off within seconds to the cop on the beat.

Genus Overseas Electronics Limited has also tied up with Ericsson to with a product that will help monitor power distribution, billing, etc. The software helps keep tabs on theft - which could be detected if the usage suddenly dips - and cut of power supply. Checks could also be kept on faulty meters.

Says Jan Campbell, MD, Ericsson India Private Ltd, "These narrow bands are perfect for short, bursty applications - it's also a highly secure environment, with the highest levels of reliability, and true push functionality." According to Campbell , the solutions are being used by the New York fire department, cops in London , and ambulance services in Queensland . And in India , with mobile solutions catching on vendors will be coming up with several narrow band applications.



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