

Abstract

Role of Standards in Advancing the Technologies for Wireless Access

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The purpose of this presentation is to show how the standardization processes, particularly at the international level, have pushed (and are pushing) the advancement of technologies for wireless access. That is, the presentation will show the other side of the coin to the classical view that standards stifle innovation. This will be based on recent examples from the development of IMT-2000 and BWA standards. Standards are not developed today like they were in the past. Strong consumer demand for advanced capabilities particularly driven by Internet applications, need to lower the cost of equipment, globalization, competition/deregularization, time to market and need for greater speed of development, more efficient use of the spectrum, etc., are some of the aspects that will be highlighted. The result is the rapid development of advanced technologies that are input to the standards process to cater for evolution and flexibility of the systems. Examples include adaptive antennas, new access methods, software radios, etc. Everything comes together in the standards, which help pace the development of advanced technology in an orderly manner. The desire to include intellectual property into the standards also leads to advances in technology.