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Digi wins European M2M Award for Best Practices

Technical School of Bochum takes Innovation Award

by Keith Kreisher, TelecomEngine Newsdesk

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The M2M Alliance -- a Germany-based association for the advancement of machine-to-machine communications -- announced hardware supplier Digi International as the winner of its prestigious Advance Award for commercial best practices yesterday at its annual conference in Cologne.

Digi International (Waltham, Mass.) primarily manufactures communication devices that use ZigBee wireless protocols. The company won the award for its installation of a network of streetlights in Stuttgart, which is said to have saved the city 30 percent on both its related electricity costs and CO2 emissions.

The M2M Alliance's Innovation Award

for non-commercial best-practices was won by the Technical School of Bochum (Germany). The school developed a wireless system for measuring the performance of hybrid cars that uses continuous geotagging over GPRS, UMTS and CAN-Bord networks to measure the car's movement. It then combines that data with topographical data.

Both awards were sponsored by Telefonica O2, which made the presentations with the M2M Alliance. M2M Alliance Chairman Georg Steimel commented, "Networked objects, combined with intelligent services, provide a substantial contribution to strong economic growth, a better environment and more comfort - despite tight resources."

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