MOBILE STANDARDS SUMMARY

UKTIN

Q7 (APR-JUN)

02/07/2024

CONTENTS

OVERVIEW

The telecoms industry forms a vital part of the UK's society and economy. It connects the country and provides the basic infrastructure on which we build all elements of our digital lives, both social and economic. The UK has many advantages when it comes to telecoms and innovation broadly, but the sector is multifaceted and navigating a complex innovation ecosystem can be challenging.

Diversifying the supply chain to increase its resilience is part of the UK Government's response. Diversification means greater involvement for the SME sector, a recognised engine of growth for most industries.

As part of UKTIN's work to support SMEs looking to innovate within the supply chain, this document has been created to educate SMEs on mobile standards.

This report will include news of major developments of the key mobile standards, plus news on patent, patent trolls and IP infringement. A summary of the mobile standard organisations we are looking out for are below.

3GPP	ETSI	IEEE	ITU-T	ITU-R	ANSI	O-RAN Alliance	IETF
The 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) is an umbrella term for a number of standards organisations which develop protocols for mobile telecommunications.	The European Telecommunications Standard Institute (ETSI) is an independent, not-for-profit, standardisation organisation in the field of information and communications. It supports the development and testing of global technical standards in ICT.	IEEE Standards Association is a leading consensus building organisation that nurtures, develops and advances global technologies.	The International Telecommunications Union Telecommunications (ITU-T) Sector's mission is to ensure the efficient and timely production of standards covering telecoms and ICT worldwide.	The International Telecommunications Union Radiocommunication (ITU-R) sector's role is to manage international radio-frequency spectrum resources and to develop standards for radio communication systems.	The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) oversees standards and conformity assessment activities in the United States.	A world-wide community of mobile operators, vendors, and research & academic institutions with the mission to re-shape Radio Access Networks to be more intelligent, open, virtualised and fully interoperable.	Internet Engineering Task Force is the premier standards development organisation for the Internet. The IETF makes voluntary standards that are often adopted by Internet users, network operators, and equipment vendors.

SNAPSHOT OF KEY COVERAGE (APR-JUN)

UK global FRAND rate dispute settles at eleventh hour
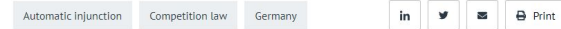
Adam Houldsworth
12 April 2024

Kigen v Thales, the English courts' first ever implementer-led SEP rate-setting dispute, has been resolved just days before trial

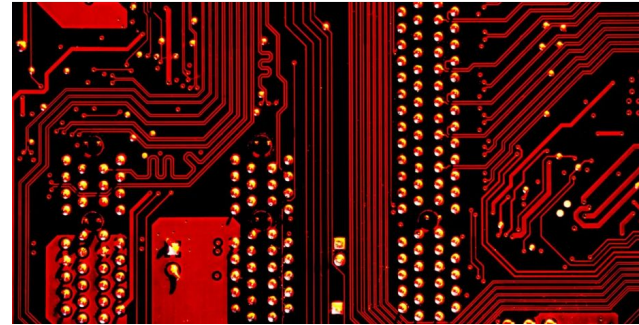**Datang wins against Samsung in 4G SEP infringement dispute**

Samsung Electronics may no longer sell mobile devices in Germany that use technology for connecting to TDD radio cells in 4G networks. In its dispute with Datang, the Munich Regional Court ruled that Samsung Electronics is an unwilling licensee. It also rejected the Korean company's competition law counterclaim.
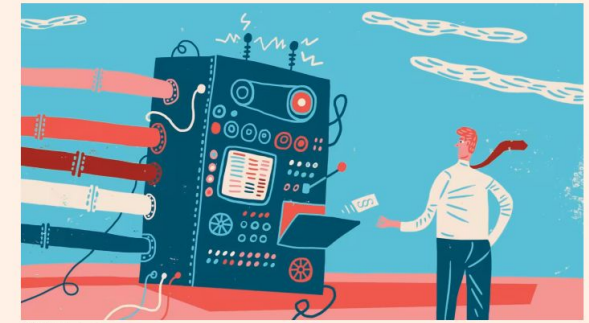
29 April 2024 by Mathieu Klos

| Automatic injunction | Competition law | Germany |

SK Telecom to spearhead global AI data centre standardisation

Posted by Georgia Sweeting | May 13, 2024 | TECHNOLOGY, AI, COMPANY NEWS, Asia-Pacific, News

EU faces telecoms ire over new Standard Essential Patent rules

While companies may agree on need for more transparency, questions are raised over draft law's practicality

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KEY MEDIA CONVERSATIONS (APR-JUN)

Disputes and battles in court over patents
Infringement issues are continuing to dominate the telecoms news agenda in the last quarter:

❖ **Thales and Kigen case settles, but paves way for FRAND-first**
  - A pending FRAND battle between Thales and Kigen settled in April, one week before it was due to go to trial. The two companies will no longer face each other in court, but the proceedings may have kickstarted a trend for implementers wishing to file FRAND cases against patent holders in the UK (Juve Patent).

❖ **Ericsson unable to push FRAND case from the UK**
  - Ericsson has failed to force Lenovo's claim over patent licensing terms out of the U.K., as a London judge concluded that the English courts are "clearly the most appropriate" forum for the Chinese multinational's case back in April (Law360).

❖ **Samsung owes $142 mln in wireless patent case**
  - Samsung Electronics owes patent owner G+ Communications $142 million for infringing G+ patents related to 5G wireless technology in its Galaxy smartphones, a Texas federal jury declared in April (Reuters).

❖ **Datang wins against Samsung in 4G SEP infringement dispute**
  - Samsung Electronics may no longer sell mobile devices in Germany that use technology for connecting to TDD radio cells in 4G networks. In its dispute with Datang, the Munich Regional Court ruled that Samsung Electronics is an unwilling licensee. It also rejected the Korean company's competition law counterclaim (Juve Patent).

❖ **What this means for you - this quarter has seen a high number of patent disputes with battles dominating the standards news agenda over the last three months. This serves as a useful reminder to SMEs to consider the evolving regulations across the sector, and ensure they are adopting telecoms standards to protect themselves against potential disputes, especially against the big players in the market.**

KEY MEDIA CONVERSATIONS (APR-JUN)

News from the telecoms standard bodies

❖ **ETSI's new 6G report dives into THz use cases**
  - ETSI released a pair of new reports designed to shed light on how 6G technology might develop and what it will do. The reports dive into more than a dozen 6G use cases – from remote surgery to real-time industrial control – as well as the terahertz spectrum bands where that might happen. ETSI said the reports are the first from its new Terahertz Industry Specification Group (ISG THz) (<u>Light Reading</u>).

❖ **What this means for you – as the telecoms market continues to find use cases for 4G and 5G adoption, it is also important to consider 6G's potential in advancing connectivity. SMEs should keep a close eye on reports coming out from ETSI to ensure they are considering telecoms standards and regulation alongside any 6G planning.**

❖ **Ellsberger named ETSI Director-General**
  - During their 83rd General Assembly, ETSI members elected the ETSI Director-General Jan Ellsberger with a majority on the third ballot. ETSI's Director-General is elected for a five-year term of office, which may be extended by the members for a further three years (<u>Advanced Television</u>).

❖ **What this means for you – it will be important to keep an eye on any changes in how Jan Ellsberger chooses to take ETSI forward. He has promised to lead with transparency, and while we shouldn't see any drastic changes, the previous Director General was at the helm for 13 years so it is certainly a shift across ETSI.**

❖ **3GPP takes next step towards 6G with new logo**
  - A logo for use on specifications for 6G has been approved by the Project Coordination Group of standards body 3GPP, a move it claims represents the next step in preparations to usher in the next-generation technology (<u>Mobile World Live</u>).

❖ **What this means for you – as above, 6G's impact and potential is starting to be considered more widely. SMEs should keep a focus on how 6G technologies are being standardised, especially given 3GPP aims to provide the industry with a roadmap for developing products and services based on the technology ahead of availability of 6G in around 2030. Now is a critical point in the standards making process - with decisions being made in the short-term that will have long-term impact.**

❖ **5G-Advanced arrives with 3GPP's Release 18**
  - The 3GPP standards association has finished the bulk of its work on Release 18, and it's now available to 5G equipment vendors. "After three years of specification work, the handset manufacturers and network vendors like Nokia can proceed to start selling 5G-Advanced compliant solutions to the market," Nokia's Antti Toskala wrote on the company's website (<u>Light Reading</u>).

❖ **What this means for you – while 6G is continuing to come into the fore, there are still a number of ways 5G needs to be adopted into real use cases to enable advanced connectivity. For SMEs, keeping a handle on how 5G is becoming compliant will be integral to ensure they are offering customers the right solutions at the right time.**

KEY MEDIA CONVERSATIONS (APR-JUN)

Additional industry news

❖   **3GPP starts the task of defining 6G**
-   3GPP held a workshop in Rotterdam in May to start the work on the features 6G will support taking input from all around the world. This follows the completion of initial work in ITU-R on on use cases in their IMT-2030 programme.
-   Several themes emerged including security and trust, support for AI/ML, immersive communications, sustainability, ubiquitous and resilient coverage, network resiliency, and sensing (3GPP).

❖   **What this means for you** – 6G is a major opportunity for the introduction of new technology and services and this is the very start of the process. So people in 3GPP are in listening mode and hoping to hear good ideas.

❖   **SK Telecom to spearhead global AI data centre standardisation**
-   South Korean telco SK Telecom has announced that its proposal to standardise technology for AI data centres has been approved as a new research project by the ITU-T (the International Telecommunication Union's Telecommunication Standardization Sector), a United Nations specialised agency.
-   The proposal will enhance the interoperability and integration of the technological components within AI data centres and provide a standardised framework for the different aspects of the technology. The proposal establishes three categories: AI Infrastructure, Management, and Resource Allocation (Total Telecom).

❖   **What this means for you** – AI poses both new challenges and opportunities for the telecoms sector. As the technology continues to evolve, SMEs need to ensure they are adopting AI within the right framework and regulations. Keeping up with how the tech is standardised will put businesses in a good position to offer safe and reliable tools to their customers and end users.

❖   EU faces telecoms ire over new Standard Essential Patent rules
-   Draft European rules aimed at simplifying patent rules for technical standards in "connected" cars and smartphones have divided opinion among industry leaders and lawyers.
-   The European parliament says its draft law will make the system fairer and simpler for patent holders and companies using their inventions. It will require holders of SEPs to input patent details into a new European database — including the expected cost for using the technical standard (Financial Times).

❖   **What this means for you** – the EU is focused on creating a smoother process for patent holders and for SMEs, it will be worth tracking the draft law and whether it is passed so they can understand new best practice for submitting a patent application or updating current details on the European database.

MOBILE STANDARDS SUMMARY

Q5 (OCT-DEC)

02/07/2024