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Smart Antenna from Hirschmann Car Communication Reduces Complexity of Vehicle Electronics

Transceiver, tuner and antenna combined in a single unit Multiple radio services available centrally

HAUPPAUGE, N.Y., Feb. 17, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- VOXX International Corporation (NASDAQ: VOXX), today announced the availability of a smart antenna from its wholly-owned subsidiary, Hirschmann Car Communication GmbH, which offers technology that intelligently combines a transceiver, tuner and antenna in a single unit. The smart antenna fulfills the requirements of new system architectures, linking a range of services including radio, GPS, mobile communication, eCall, TV and Car-to-X in one central point, outside of the head unit.

"Our smart antenna offers automotive manufacturers an effective, basic technological structure that allows new standards, architectures and customer requirements for infotainment and communication services to be integrated in vehicles quickly, flexibly and in a scalable manner," said Ludwig Geis, CEO of Hirschmann Car Communication GmbH. "It reduces complexity instead of increasing it. We have already conducted an extensive test program with a well-known automotive manufacturer, in which all of the customer requirements were successfully implemented."

Transceiver, tuner and antenna combined

The smart antenna consists of a standard roof antenna and a control device, which contains the tuner and the transceiver and is responsible for demodulating and decoding from various radio services. The design reduces the in-car distances traveled by the analogue HF signals between the antenna and the receiver, which improves the signal quality for passengers making telephone calls, listening to the radio, using the navigation function or watching television. The direct signal processing and position on the vehicle roof are also ideal for receiving GHz signals for WLAN and Bluetooth connections, for example in Car-to-X communication. In addition, the bundling of functions at a central point does away with the need for coaxial cables and unnecessary interfaces in the car. If it is not possible for the control device and antenna to both be mounted on the roof in the same place (e.g. as is the case on convertibles), the components can be decoupled and positioned at different points.

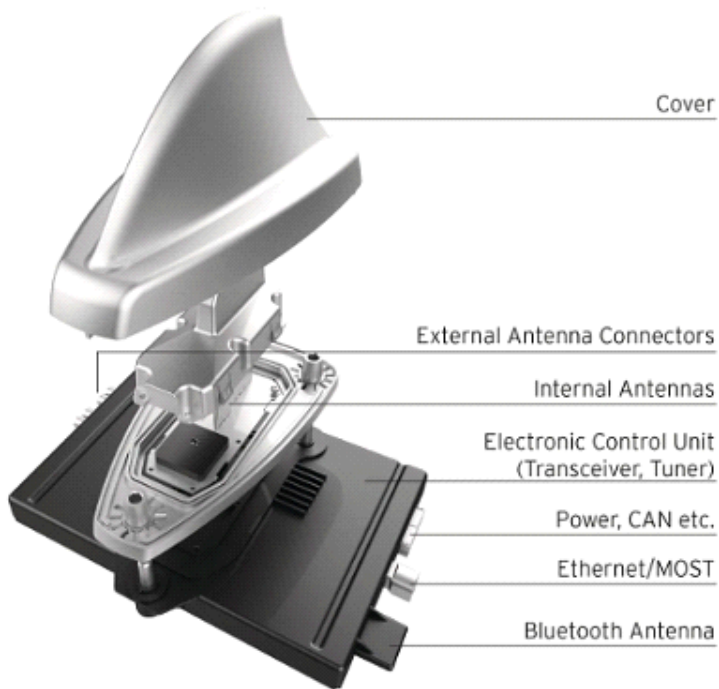
Transfer of services from the head unit

The smart antenna also performs the functions that were previously integrated in the head unit. Updating the radio standard no longer requires the entire head unit to be replaced. Thanks to its scalability, the smart antenna can be connected to a range of head unit variants. Furthermore, fewer country-specific head unit variants are required, which significantly reduces development costs.

The smart antenna is controlled from the head unit and connected using only a digital bus system such as MOST or Ethernet. A direct connection can be established to smartphones and tablets via the WLAN and Bluetooth function.

Technical features of the smart antenna include:

- | Mobile communication: 2G, 3G, 4G
- | Emergency call functions with integrated battery concept: eCall and ERA-GLONASS
- | Location data: GPS, GLONASS, Galileo, BeiDou
- | Radio and TV: AM/FM, DAB/DAB+, HD/SiriusXM, DVB-T/-T2, ISDB-T
- | Bluetooth and Bluetooth Low Energy
- | WLAN hotspot
- | Car-to-X communication as per 802.11p
- | Automotive bus systems: MOST, Ethernet, CAN



Printable image material is available at www.hirschmann-car.com. For more information, please feel free to contact us at hcc@wyze.de.

About Hirschmann Car Communication:

Hirschmann Car Communication GmbH, based in Neckartenzlingen, near Stuttgart, Germany, is one of the leading specialists for transmission and receiver systems in mobile communication. The portfolio of innovative solutions includes antenna, tuner and infotainment systems with radio and TV modules for the automotive industry as well as customized M2M and telematics solutions. Hirschmann Car Communication has locations in Germany, Hungary, France, China and the USA. In the 2015 financial year (03/2014 - 02/2015), the company generated sales of €135 million with a global workforce of around 900 employees. Since 2012, Hirschmann Car Communication has belonged to VOXX International Corporation (USA). Further information can be found online at www.hirschmann-car.com.

About VOXX International Corporation:

VOXX International Corporation (NASDAQ: VOXX) has grown into a worldwide leader in many automotive and consumer electronics and accessories categories, as well as premium high-end audio. Today, VOXX International Corporation has an extensive distribution network that includes power retailers, mass merchandisers, 12-volt specialists and most of the world's leading automotive manufacturers. The Company has an international footprint in Europe, Asia, Mexico and South America, and a growing portfolio, which now comprises over 30 trusted brands. Among the key domestic brands are Klipsch®, RCA®, Invision®, Jensen®, Audiovox®, Terk®, Acoustic Research®, Advent®, Code Alarm®, Car Connection®, 808®, AR for Her®, and Prestige®. International brands include Hirschmann Car Communication®, Klipsch®, Jamo®, Energy®, Mirage®, Mac Audio®, Magnat®, Heco®, Schwaiger®, Oehlbach® and Incaar™. For additional information, please visit our Web site at www.voxxiintl.com.

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