

# Softil Announces Successful Completion of First Interoperability Testing of Direct Mode MCX Communications

*Softil's BEEHD Framework validated interoperability of 3GPP standards-based device-to-device (off-network) MCX devices with Qualcomm's 5G-Sidelink technology*

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*Anatoli Levine, Director  
Products & Standards, Softil*

TEL AVIV, ISRAEL, November 7, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The world's leading mission-critical communications (MCX) enabler Softil today reports that Softil engineers employed its BEEHD Framework at ETSI's latest Plugtest held on 9-13 October at Malaga, Spain to validate the interoperability of new MCX vendor products.

The ETSI MCX Plugtest #8 was focused on testing products with the latest functionality of 3GPP Release 17, FRMCS, eMBMS, Interworking function (IWF), direct mode and other features of 3GPP mission-critical communication standards.

Device-to-device communications ... with or without network connectivity

During the Malaga Plugtest, the Softil team focused on one of the most critical MCX features – ensuring device-to-device communications. Device-to-device communications are essential for first responders and all other group communications users. The technology allows critical communications users to communicate when network connectivity is absent.

Until now, communicating when a network was down was only available on Land Mobile Radio (LMR) devices. However, Qualcomm's 5G-Sidelink technology now allows devices to discover each other and communicate without network connectivity.

Softil, together with Alea, a Leonardo company, demonstrated the first ever interoperable direct mode communication at the Malaga plugtest using devices powered by Qualcomm 5G-Sidelink technology.

“By ensuring interoperability of MCX products and solutions, the industry spurs choice, economies of scale, confidence in the new technology and allows operators to choose best-of-breed solutions,” says Anatoli Levine, Director of Products & Standards at Softil and who also led the Softil team at the plugtest. “With complete interoperability of systems, First Responders from all blue light agencies working at an incident can communicate together at all times irrespective of MCX vendor products being used.”

Levine adds: “Once deployed, Qualcomm’s 5G-Sidelink technology will allow the complete transition from LMR to the latest public safety broadband technologies with the resulting benefits, notably the ability to work better and faster and beyond existing barriers.”

The event was hosted by the University of Malaga (UMA) and was attended by more than 115

delegates representing 31 MCX vendor companies and 20 observer organizations and staff.

Softil has participated in all MCX and FRMCS ETSI Plugtests since the first event was held in 2017 hosted by ETSI in Sophia-Antipolis, France. At every ETSI plugtest, a team of Softil engineers participate in product testing to improve the level of interoperability between open-standard based solutions developed by different vendors. Full interoperability of MCX products helps all vendors and customers to have a better, easier and faster route to deploy new mission-critical products. Relying on open standards and interoperability is crucial for public safety and other mission-critical communications sectors such as transportation, railways (FRMCS) and utilities and helps instill confidence in the new technology.

#### About Softil’s BEEHD Framework Technology

Softil’s BEEHD is a 3GPP MCX Release 17 standard-compliant cross-platform framework (SDK) designed for developers and manufacturers of handheld and ruggedized devices, MCX/LMR gateways, dispatch consoles, recording solutions and train/metro communication equipment. BEEHD technology is also destined for system integrators, MCX application developers and service providers looking to accelerate the development of IP-based mission-critical voice and video over LTE and 5G (MCPTT, MCVideo, MCData) solutions for first responders, utilities, mining, transportation and more. BEEHD offers market-proven interoperability with all major MCX systems deployed around the world.



Anatoli Levine, Director, Products & Standards at MCX enabler Softil

## About Softil

Softil is the leading enabler of IP communications solutions for mission-critical telecommunications products and services. Softil's Toolkits are behind a wide range of 3GPP-based solutions, devices, and products, as well as rich media applications for Enterprise and IMS/VoLTE. With more than 900 major corporations across the globe as customers, Softil's many technological achievements include the pioneering of Voice and Video over IP, combining its unique expertise in standards-based signaling, multimedia and IMS. Softil's award-winning suite of Protocol Stacks includes IMS, Diameter, SIP, MSRP, and others. Softil enabling technologies ensure simplified development and earliest roll-out of new products to market. Visit <https://www.softil.com>.

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