Summary of Presentation

This presentation is an overview of the Cape Town TV White Spaces Trial. It provides an overview of the Trial network and the Trial's accomplishments, with a specific focus on the policy related implications of the results. The presentation describes the technical aspects of equipment, the lab tests conducted on the equipment, the process for developing the database and the techniques used to field check the database results.

About The Trial

With the support of ICASA, the communications regulator of South Africa, a group of partners implemented a TVWS trial network covering ten schools in the Western Cape over a six month period during 2013. The trial partners include TENET, CSIR Meraka, e-Schools Network, WAPA and Google, with Comsol Wireless Solutions, Carlson Wireless Technologies and Neul as the vendor partners. The goals of the trial was to:

Demonstrate that TVWS can be used to deliver affordable broadband and Internet services without interfering with TV reception

Increase awareness of the potential for TVWS technology in South Africa and across the continent.

About The Network

The TVWS network consists of multiple base stations located at Stellenbosch University's Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences in Tygerburg, Cape Town, which deliver broadband Internet service to ten schools within a 10 kilometer radius. The ten schools have been preselected based on proximity to the base station, local IT and network support, and other connectivity requirements. Each school receives dedicated 2.5 Mbps service with failover to ADSL in order to prevent downtime during school hours.

Visit : TVWS Trial Website