

**ITU-BDT SEMINAR ON FIXED MOBILE-CONVERGENCE
NAIROBI KENYA 9-12 MAY 2005**

**TOPIC: APPLICATION OF WIFI IN BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE IN
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

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Abstract:

WiFi is a technology based on IEEE 802.11 standard that uses License-free ISM Bands at 2.4 and 5.8 GHz. The technology uses OFDM modulation techniques that enable the delivery of very high bit rates of 11/45 Mbps. This is useful for transmission of data and video signals as well as for telephony applications.

This paper will highlight the basic architecture of a WiFi network and some applications of the technology for Internet, telephony and data communication. A few examples of WiFi applications in the fields of health, education, Internet access and GSM interconnect will be illustrated. The presentation will also show how remote rural communities in developing countries can use WiFi networks to communicate with each other and with the rest of the world hence bridge the digital divide.