

PicoWAN, a network operator, majority-owned subsidiary of ARCHOS, announces the launch of its collaborative network based on LoRA™ in the Internet of Things



Paris, FRANCE- October 6th 2015 – PicoWAN’s aim is to be the first LP-WAN (Low Power – Wide Area Network) RF network for connected objects, which will be collaborative, global, cross-border and available at a very low price.

It will be launched in Europe from June 2016.

“PicoWAN is a project close to my heart. I have been deeply involved in the development and have even filed 3 patents,” announces Henri CROHAS, President of ARCHOS. “The potential is huge.”

A revolution in the Internet of Things

The key to this innovation is a unique wireless communications network protocol based on the use of pico-gateways, as opposed to rooftop concentrators and antennas, which come in the form of smart plugs connected to the internet via WiFi or Ethernet. Embedding a LoRa™ IC, the range of pico-gateways is potentially as long as the sophisticated antenna gears installed on rooftops by telcos. As a result of its low-cost and its easy installation inside buildings, the network can be densified at will and made fail-safe, penetrate very deep indoor resulting in a much higher QoS (Quality of Service).



A collaborative network at a very low price

The cost of a pico-gateway is some 100 times less than the cost of a rooftop installation. Instead of investing tens of million euros in infrastructure, PicoWAN will create a highly competitive LP-WAN thanks to the viral diffusion of very low-cost pico-gateways.

To ensure the deployment of a global network throughout Europe, PicoWAN plans to distribute up to 200,000 free pico-gateways by the end of 2016.

PicoWAN will offer a subscription plan starting at 50 euro cents per year, per connected object. Those who will deploy pico-gateway networks locally will receive up to 50% of the income resulting from the connections passing through their pico-gateways.

Optimal compatibility with connected objects

The software embedded in connected objects will be freely available to all developers and integrators developing on vertical or consumer markets, who can then set up their own IoT networks. This technology will facilitate the launch of multiple connected objects in all domains (health, agriculture, home automation, industry, and more), instantly supported by the PicoWAN network anywhere.

All LoRaWAN™ objects can be made compatible with ease.

Join us at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona in February 2016 for a demonstration of PicoWAN network.

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About PicoWAN

PicoWAN is a team gathered around Henri Crohas, founder of ARCHOS, whose goal is to build by the end of 2016 the first collaborative, global and viral LP-WAN network. This network will be the densest in geography in Europe and the most competitive in terms of price. PicoWAN SAS will soon be registered, it will be a subsidiary of ARCHOS and Henri Crohas will be the President of PicoWAN.

About ARCHOS

ARCHOS, a pioneer in the portable audio and video player market, and now specializing in Android Tablets and Smartphones, has repeatedly revolutionized the market for consumer electronics since 1988. Today, ARCHOS offers its own line of Android Tablets and Smartphones, as well as a full line of OEM devices. In 2000, ARCHOS launched the Jukebox 6000, the first MP3 player combined with a hard disk. In 2008, ARCHOS launched the first generation Internet Tablets, and then the first ever Android powered tablets in 2009. In 2013, ARCHOS launched its first generation of Smartphones with the ARCHOS Platinum series. ARCHOS has offices in the United States, Europe and Asia. ARCHOS is quoted on Compartment C of Eurolist, Euronext Paris, ISIN CodeFR0000182479. Website: www.archos.com

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