



Compact EdgeQAM Modulator in a Box

New Product Extends Company Push Into IP

Plainsboro, NJ, September 30, 2009—Blankom USA, the U.S. arm of the Blankom group, Germany, one of the world's leading providers of cable headend solutions with more than 10,000 installed systems worldwide, announced today the introduction of its EQM008 compact EdgeQAM modulators, representing the next step in the move by the Company into the video over IP domain.

The EQM008 is a 7"x4"x1.5" box delivering eight 6MHz QAM channels. It is based on Blankom's EQM family of EdgeQAM modulators released earlier in the year and has been designed to provide services to subscribers at the edge of the distribution network. The small form factor design allows operators to install this tiny box in a street cabinet or in small telecom equipment closets for provision of digital video services to private communities, campus networks, test lab installations, etc.

Blankom is also releasing today its EQM8000 96 channel modular EdgeQAM system which packages up to twelve EQM008 into a 4RU 19" rack chassis with redundant power supplies making the EQM008 the most cost-efficient solution for modular EdgeQAM installations. The EQM8000 features hot-swap capability, easy plug-in installation from the front, an integrated SNMP module and comes prepackaged with a GigE switch. This will allow system operators to deploy a complete N+1 redundant EdgeQAM solution.

"With the EQM008 we can extend the concept of EdgeQAM modulation to small networks at a fraction of the cost of traditional headend modulator extending the reach of digital video to many more video networks and small market systems," said Gerhard Franz, president of Blankom USA. "Our customers can now easily move their services to IP without the need to abandon their existing local HFC networks, protecting their investment."

Combining the new product with Blankom's line of receiver products which all feature IP outputs, Blankom provides a complete video over IP solution that can be easily implemented directly to the local HFC plant. "We see very strong demand for this solution worldwide, but the market is particularly vibrant here in North America," said Ralf Riedel, Blankom Digital's worldwide technical sales director for IP products. Several operators have the EQM products already installed together with Blankom's DIP 120/121 IP gateways providing video packages to remote customer locations across North America.

(more)

About Blankom USA

Blankom USA, the U.S. arm of the Blankom group, Germany, provides turnkey headend solutions available to all cable operators. Blankom Antennentechnik, GmbH, founded in 1919, together with its sister company Blankom Digital GmbH, is one of the world's leading providers of signal processing and distribution products, specializing in digital headend systems used by the world's cable operators and broadcasters. Blankom has more than 10,000 headend systems installed worldwide and is an ISO 9001 certified company.

BLANKOM stands for technical innovation, high-quality, highly engineered, reliable products and excellent service concepts: Professional Headend Solutions "Made in Germany". For more information, see www.blankom-usa.com.

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