

WorldDAB Position Paper on the 'Dynamic label' feature

WorldDAB Module 1, covering Services and Equipment, has studied the options now available for the 'Dynamic label' feature. It concludes that the following notes will assist both broadcasters and consumer electronics manufacturers to develop their Digital Radio services and equipment, together offering improved end-user performance.

- In DAB transmissions, text may be broadcast alongside a radio programme, using the Dynamic label feature [1]. The Dynamic label feature allows text messages of up to 128 characters to be broadcast (including punctuation and spaces between words).
- Eureka 147 has developed a 'headline feature – using a marker' within a Dynamic label [2]. With this feature, a special character is included in the Dynamic label, to separate the first few words from the rest of the Dynamic label message. These first few words (the headline) are intended to be displayed on a 2 x 16 character display (note that a 2 x 16 character display is expected to be implemented in early generation DAB car receivers).
- If the 'headline marker' is used within a Dynamic label message:
 - receivers with a 2 x 16 character display must *only* present the headline and ignore the rest of the message;
 - other receivers should display the whole 128 character message, using scrolling where necessary.
- If no 'headline marker' is included in a Dynamic label message, receivers with only a 2 x 16 character display will ignore the message and *not* display it.
- As a general rule, end-users will obtain higher value if Dynamic label messages change dynamically. The rest of the Dynamic label message (after the 'headline marker') may be changed, as often as the broadcaster determines.
- However, with car receivers there are safety issues if the Dynamic label headline changes too frequently. The guideline is that the Dynamic label headline should remain static for at least one minute before being changed. Any broadcaster who decides to change messages at a higher rate should do so, only after seriously considering the safety issues. (Some broadcasters have argued strongly for a limit of 30 seconds and this will be the subject of trials, before a change is endorsed.)

ends

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References:

- [1] **ETS 300 401: Second Edition** - Section 7.4.5.2 1997-05
- [2] **Eureka 147** - DAB-GIO, Volume 2, 'May 1999 revision',
Section 3.5.6, Dynamic label
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- WorldDAB M1/224** - agreed Geneva Meeting 1998-11-10

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