

FRAUNHOFER INSTITUTE FOR INTEGRATED CIRCUITS IIS

EMERGENCY WARNING FUNCTIONALITY FOR DIGITAL RADIO





http://s.fhg.de/digbroadcasting

The Emergency Warning Functionality (EWF) for the open and global digital radio standards Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM) and DAB/DAB+ (WorldDMB) is a reliable and easy to use tool that alerts and informs the public in case of disasters and emergencies.

Comprehensive Information

In the event of an emergency, the digital radio receiver automatically re-tunes to the emergency program, displays a visual alarm, and increases the audio volume. The emergency program itself is more than just the audio message. In order to quickly provide further details, and to assist non-native speakers and hearing-impaired users, on-demand access to emergency information is available in various languages through Journaline's text-based format.

Ubiquitous Availability

Digital radio transmissions use a robust and well-established infrastructure to deliver reliable emergency warnings across large broadcast ranges. In order to receive these warnings listeners only need a common radio, preferably battery-operated due to possible power blackouts. Furthermore, since digital radio is free to air, it reaches a wider audience than other services.

Reliable Service

Since the digital radio standards are independent of local infrastructure, they can cover disaster areas more readily. By using secured transmitter sites outside the affected area, these standards provide extremely reliable, blackout-free emergency warnings.