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LoRa Alliance® and OMS-Group Optimize Smart Utilities Transmissions with OMS Over LoRaWAN®

Integration will reduce cost and complexity for utilities increasing ROI; proof of concept to be demonstrated at Enlit 2021

Cologne, November 16th, 2021 – The LoRa Alliance® and OMS-Group e. V., today announced a new liaison to standardize smart metering IoT applications through the combined use of OMS and LoRaWAN® standards. In a joint task force, the organizations have specified a standard use of the Open Metering System (OMS) metering language over LoRaWAN. The new specification reduces the complexity and cost of integration for utilities, which in turn increases their return on investment (ROI). A joint demo of OMS over LoRaWAN will be shown at Enlit, taking place Nov. 29 to Dec. 2, 2021, in Milan.

“Standardization is absolutely essential to achieving the massive scale forecast for the IoT,” said Donna Moore, CEO and chairwoman of the LoRa Alliance. “Given the size of their deployments, gas, water and electric utilities will achieve more business value from implementing standards-backed technologies like LoRaWAN and OMS due to the interoperability and ease of deployment provided. LoRaWAN is already proven for networking smart utility applications, from metering, to leak detection, automated shut-off, and more. Using LoRaWAN with OMS is a game-changer for the European utility market that makes deployments simpler and more cost-effective, while ensuring the interoperability of legacy meters, to maximize ROI.”

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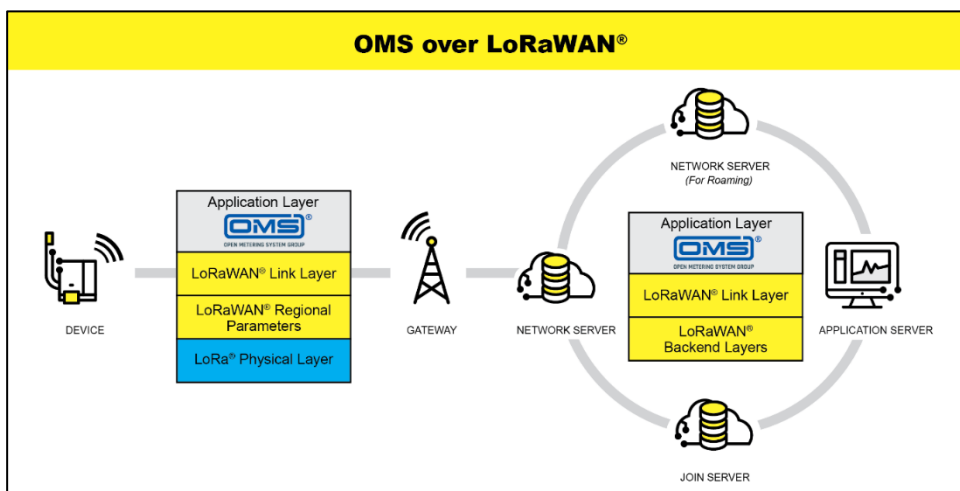
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“Utilities have long relied on the Open Metering System Specification to integrate all media – electricity, gas, heat and water, including submetering – into one system,” said Andreas Bolder, speaker of the board of OMS-Group. “Combining the benefits of the OMS language with those of LoRaWAN networking offers further standardization of smart metering applications, increasing utilities’ readiness for IoT.”

The new joint LoRa Alliance and OMS specification enables a standard M-Bus transport over LoRaWAN, and a joint proof of concept (PoC) has validated the interoperability on all levels, from data platform down to different OMS end devices connected via the same or different LoRaWAN networks. At Enlit, a joint demo of the OMS over LoRaWAN PoC will be featured in the LoRa Alliance and OMS-Group’s respective stands. The specification and PoC were developed jointly by members of both organizations.



Caption: In OMS over LoRaWAN®, OMS Serves as the Application Layer within a Standard LoRaWAN Network Architecture

Using OMS over LoRaWAN for standard OMS applications allows utility companies that already use OMS to benefit from LoRaWAN’s advantages, including low power consumption, long range and deep indoor penetration—ideal for meters that are often underground, or in

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concrete or other hard-to-reach areas—and firmware updates over the air (FUOTA). The new specification also ensures interoperability with legacy OMS-based systems, frees utilities from the costly burden of deploying and maintaining radio network infrastructure by using existing LoRaWAN third-party networks. Together, this extends the systems' useful life to achieve significant cost savings.

To learn more about and see the OMS over LoRaWAN PoC, please visit the organizations in their respective booths at Enlit to view the implementation demo:

- LoRa Alliance – Stand 8.G90
- OMS-Group – Stand 8.B50

Find more information on the organizations' websites: lora-alliance.org and oms-group.org.

About OMS-Group

The OMS-Group is a 68 member strong interest group of companies from eighteen countries worldwide. The founding organizations are figawa and KNX Association. With the Open Metering System (OMS) specification, the industry group has developed an open, multi-vendor, interoperable communication standard for electricity, gas, thermal energy, and water meters, as well as submetering. OMS is based on the EN 13757-x standard, has been included into the EU mandate M/441 for the standardization of smart metering systems, and is compatible with the widely-used KNX standard (ISO / IEC 14543-3 = EN 50090). Thus, building automation systems can be directly connected, e.g. for energy management. Future services such as tariff and load management can easily be realized with OMS. Smart OMS meters help save energy and support the optimal integration of fluctuating renewable energies, such as wind power or solar energy. For more information on the OMS standard and the OMS-Group, refer to www.oms-group.org.

About LoRa Alliance

The LoRa Alliance® is an open, nonprofit association that has become one of the largest and fastest-growing alliances in the technology sector since its inception in 2015. Its members closely collaborate and share expertise to develop and promote the LoRaWAN® standard, which is the de facto global standard for secure, carrier-grade IoT LPWAN connectivity. LoRaWAN has the technical flexibility to address a broad range of IoT applications, both fixed and mobile, and a robust LoRaWAN Certification program to guarantee that devices perform as specified. The LoRaWAN standard has been deployed by more than 155 major mobile network operators globally, and connectivity is available in more than 170 countries, with continual expansion. More information: lora-alliance.org

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