

DIRBS: An Open Source Technical Solution to combat counterfeit ICT devices

Mohammad Raheel Kamal

Presentation Abstract

There is a growing awareness among governments, operators, and manufacturers about the degree to which counterfeit, stolen and illegal mobile devices are being sold and shipped around the world and the negative impact of these devices on the overall ecosystem, including security and public safety concerns and significant tax revenue loss to the governments.

In the past decade, over 1.2B counterfeit and fraudulent devices have been sold according to the industry estimates, and the number of these devices is forecast to increase unless significant measures are put in place by the governments and the regulatory bodies. Along with the regulatory framework, any proposed solution must be discussed with the appropriate participation and inclusion of the views from other stakeholders in the value chain including the operators, device manufacturers, distributors, retailers, and the consumers for a comprehensive resolution to this ecosystem issue.

The talk will provide a broad overview of the concern and will cover DIRBS (Device Identification Registration and Blocking System) open source software platform that is freely available to implement in any country that allows governments to combat the growing counterfeit, stolen and illegal device market. Regulatory and technical aspects will be presented to aid governments in system implementation to ensure success in this fight against counterfeit, stolen and illegal mobile device market.