# Testing of LoRa® in Development & Manufacturing



RedwoodComm



### **Contents**

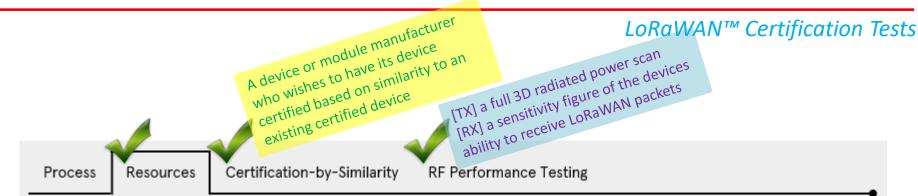
LoRaWAN™ Certification Tests

#### LoRaWAN™ Certification Tests

- Protocol Certification
- RF Performance
- Pre-Certification Tests
  - Necessity of Pre-Certification
  - Requirement of Pre-Certification Tester
  - Pre-Certification & RF Performance Tests
- Semtech's Gateway Tests
- LBT Test
- Manufacturing Tests



### LoRa Alliance Certification Standards



The documents below are available to all LoRa Alliance Members and can be found in the All Members/Certification folder within the Member Portal:

- LoRa Alliance Certification Policies and Procedures document\*
- LoRa Alliance European EU 863-870MHz Region End Device Certification Requirements document V1.5\*
- LoRa Alliance US902-928MHz Region End Device Certification Requirements document V1.3\*
- LoRa Alliance Asia AS 923MHz Region End Device Certification Requirements document V1.1\*
- LoRa Alliance South Korea 920-923MHz Region End Device Certification Requirements documentV1.2\*
- LoRa Alliance India IN865-867MHz Region End Device Certification Requirements document 1.0\*
- LoRa Alliance Customer Questionnaire V2.0 document\*
- GitHub link to reference code https://github.com/Lora-net

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<sup>\*</sup>Documents are exclusively available to LoRa Alliance Members via the Member Portal

### Overview of LoRa® Certification Test

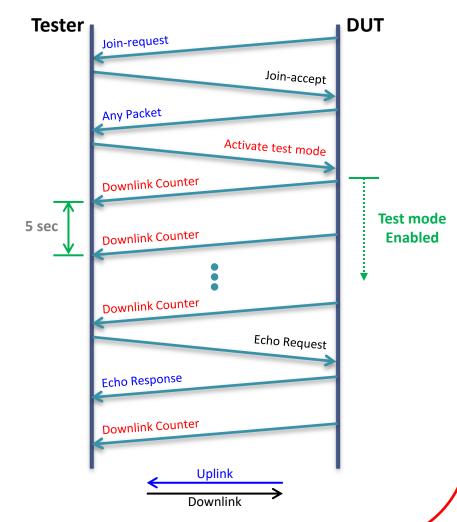
#### LoRaWAN™ Certification Tests

#### Purpose

 To confirm the End Device meets the Functional Requirements of the LoRaWAN™ protocol specification

#### Test Mode Activation

- End Device should support test mode
- Should periodically report the number of DL packets using Downlink\_Counter packet
- Should support Echo commands;
  EchoRequest & EchoResponse



# **Protocol Certification Test (e.g. EU)**

LoRaWAN™ Certification Tests

- Test Application Functionality
  - Periodic downlink counter, Echo command
- Over The Air Activation
- Cryptography
  - AEC encryption, MIC
- Downlink window timing
  - Timing offset tolerance
- Frame sequence number
  - FCntUp, FCntDown
- MAC commands
  - DevStatusReq, Invalid Command, NewChannelReq, RXParamSetupReq, LinkADRReq
- Confirmed Packets
  - Acknowledgement, UL/DL retransmission
- Packet Error Rates
  - SF12~SF7 for RX1 and RX2 windows, at least 60 DL packets, 95% reception

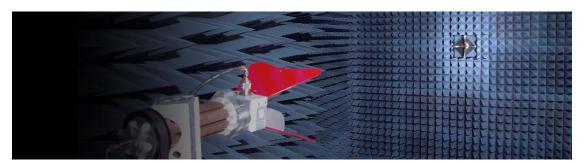


### **RF Performance Tests**



LoRaWAN™ Certification Tests

- Main Requirement
  - For the 868 MHz ISM band, the device should not radiate in excess of 14 dBm (or 25 mW) ERP for any orientation
  - Receiver performance is important as Transmitter
- The pass/fail criteria is <u>deliberately not defined</u> by the LoRa Alliance™ (but requested by LoRaWAN™ operators)
- End-device Requirements for Testing
  - Should fulfil the LoRaWAN™ specification version 1.0.2 or newer
  - Should implement CW transmit mode via OTA commands
  - Should integrate the antenna or at least provide one



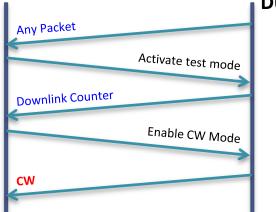


### **Transmitter Performance**

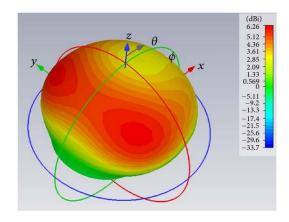
LoRaWAN™ Certification Tests

- Channels
  - 863.1 MHz (low), 868.3 MHz (default, RX1 window), 869.525MHz (high, RX2 window)
- DUT should transmit CW signal (max output power)
- RMS detector is used (RBW: 100kHz)
- The result of the measurement shall be a full 3D radiation power pattern
  - ERP  $(\varphi, \vartheta)$  = EIRP  $(\varphi, \vartheta)$   $G_{dipole}$ 
    - G<sub>dipole</sub>: the gain of an ideal dipole antenna (2.15dBi)





#### DUT

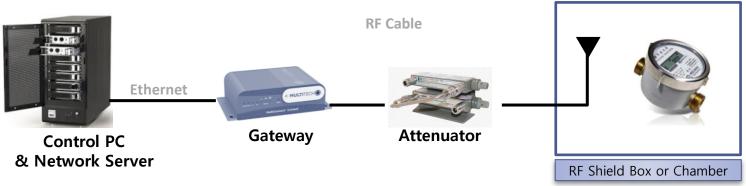




## Receiver Performance (1/2)

#### LoRaWAN™ Certification Tests

- RX performance is described with the effective isotropic sensitivity EIS  $(\varphi, \vartheta)$
- RF Parameters
  - Channel: 868.3 MHz (RX1), 869.525 MHz (RX2)
  - BW: 125kHz
  - SF7(DR5) and SF12(DR0)
- The angle is chosen from a region where the antenna gain is stable



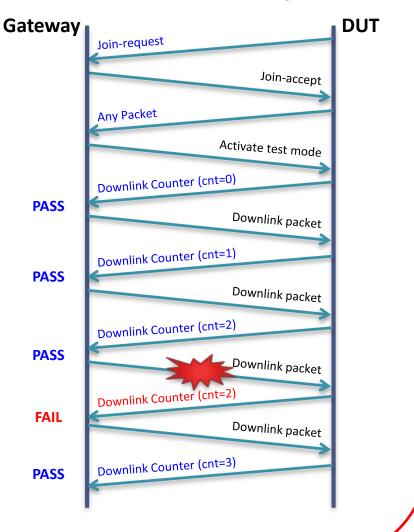


# Receiver performance (2/2)

- Test at least 60 packets
- Sensitivity threshold
  - Attenuate the gateway TX
     power level with a precise RF
     step attenuators to achieve
     90% reception of packets in
     the respective position of DUT
  - The power value is recorded along with the direction it has been measured



#### LoRaWAN™ Certification Tests

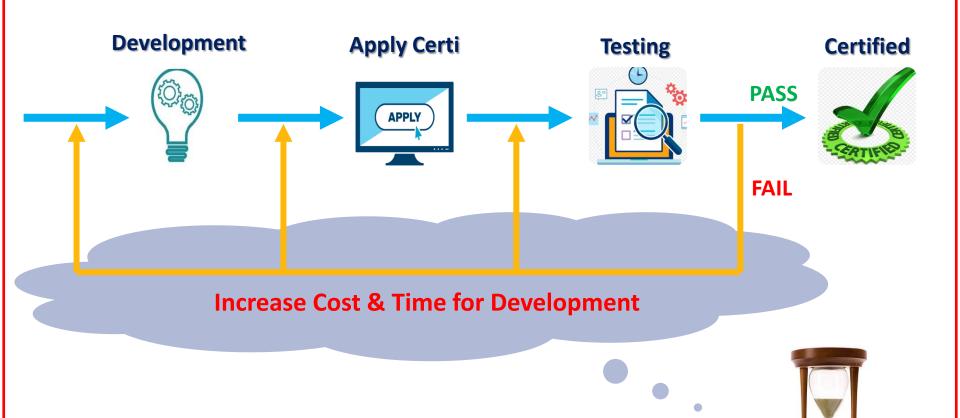


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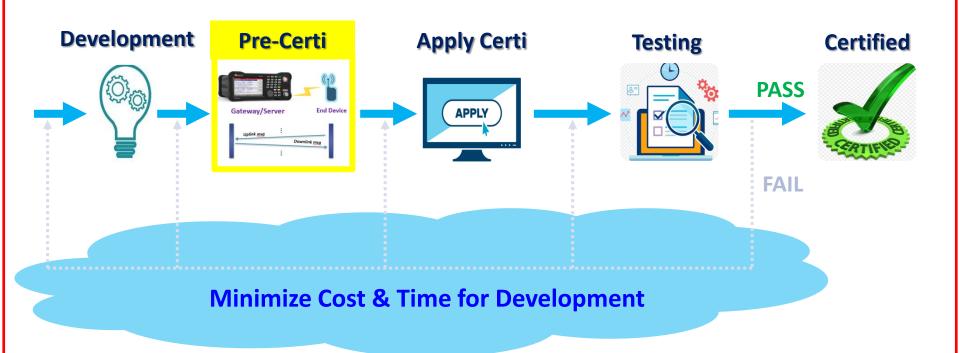


# Development without Pre-Certification





### **Development with Pre-Certification**







### Requirement of Pre-Certification Tester

- Fulfil LoRaWAN™ specification V1.0.2 or newer
  - Flexible configuration of protocol and test parameters
- Support various regions
- Accurate TX power control down to -150dBm
- Accurate RX power measurement
- Same Test Result as Certification Test system
- Easy to use, compact to move







### Why Need a Dedicated LoRaWAN<sup>TM</sup> Tester



**Ethernet** 

Gateway

**Attenuator** 

RF Shield Box or Chamber

**Pre-Certification Tests** 

Control PC & Network Server

Not easy to control Network server and Gateway Various regional gateways required

Difficult to make very low signal using step attn.

- √ Simple & compact
- ✓ Multiple regions
- √ -150dBm



**Dedicated LoRaWAN™ Tester** 

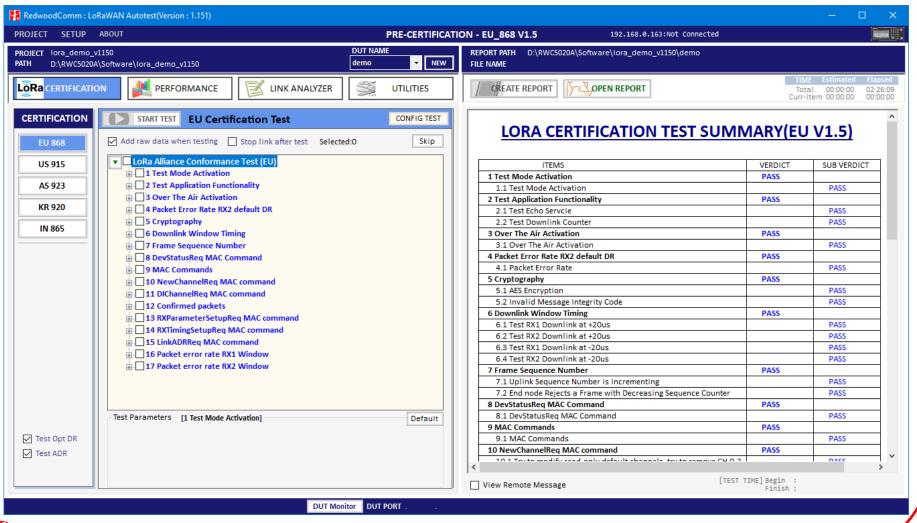
RF Cable



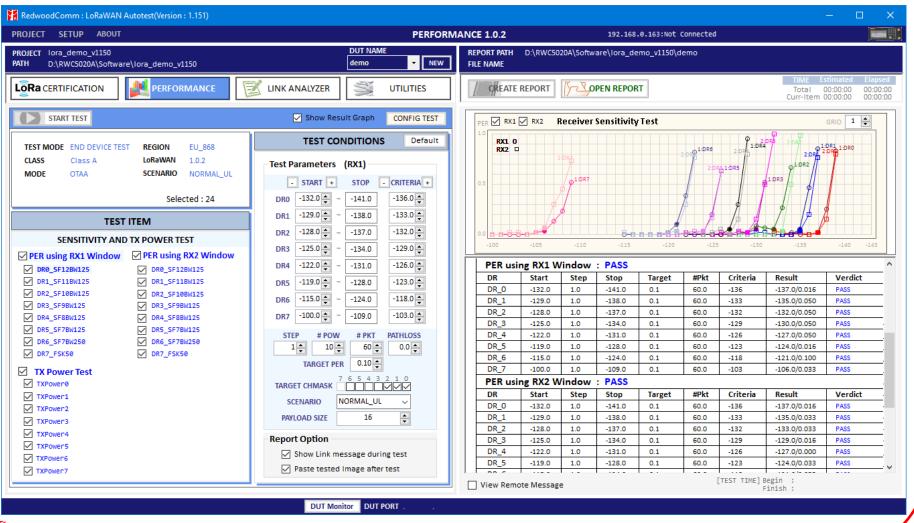
RF Shield Box or Chamber



### LoRaWAN<sup>TM</sup> Pre-Certification Tests



### **RF Performance Tests**



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### **Test List**

Semtech's Gateway Tests

#### GW V2 Non-regression Tests – EU 868

- TX output Power Calibration
- Sensitivity
- PER/RSSI/SNR
- Frequency Error Tolerance
- CW Interferer/Blocker Immunity

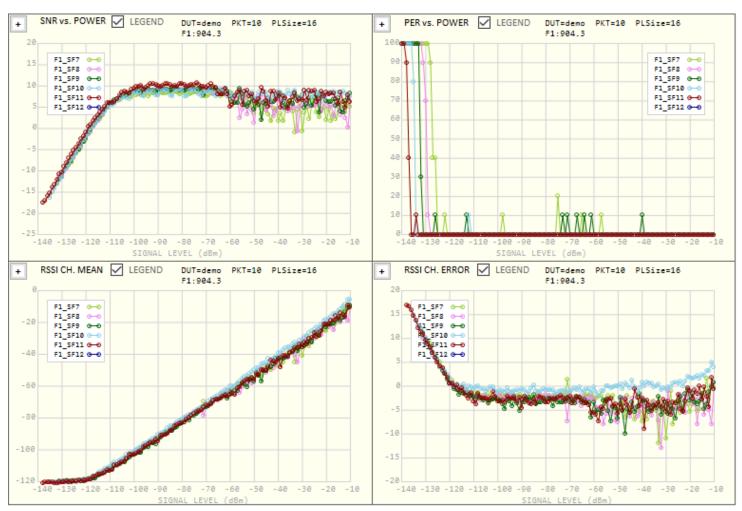


# **Test Setup**

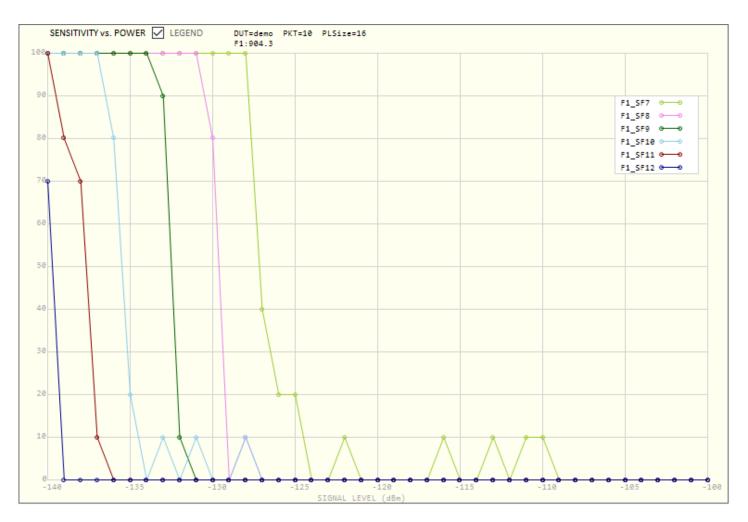




# Example. PER/RSSI/SNR



# **Example. Sensitivity**



# **Example. CW Interferer Immunity**





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LBT Test

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### **LBT**

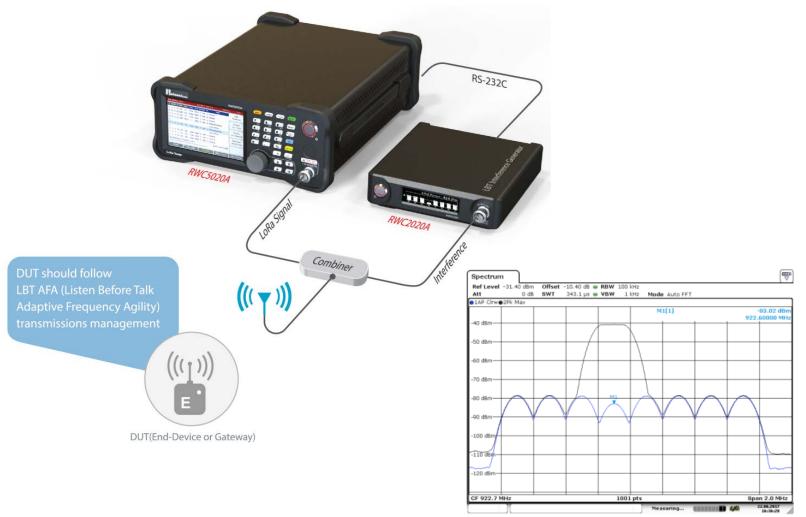
LBT Test

- Listen Before Talk
  - to prevent interference or collision between devices on common frequency channels
- How To Test LBT
  - Use RWC2020A Interference Generator as an interferer
  - For details, refer to the Local Regulations of Japan and Korea



# LBT Test Setup

#### LBT Test



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Manufacturing Tests

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# Considerations on Manufacturing

**Manufacturing Tests** 

- What needs to be tested in Production lines
  - Transmit Power
  - Receiver Sensitivity (PER)
- Selection of test mode
  - Test Time
    - Non-signaling mode is preferred than Signaling mode
  - Target Device Type
    - Non-signaling mode is applicable to both End-device and Gateway
  - Wired Control of DUT
    - It may increase test time and complexity
- Our Proposals for Automation
  - Separate T/RX Tests
  - Simultaneous T/RX Tests (called MFC Test)



# **Manufacturing Solution 1**

**Manufacturing Tests** 

#### Separate T/RX Test with SG/SA



DUT

End-device or Gateway

SF, BW, length, ... Frequency, Low TX Power

Number of packets

- Configure the test packet
- Repeat sending packets
- > Stop

Signal Generator



- > Enter RX Test Mode
- Count # of packets rcvd
- Calculate PER

Any form of LoRa test packets can be generated with various flexible protocol parameters

SF, BW, ... Frequency

- Configure the receiver
- Measure TX Power

Signal Analyzer



- > Enter TX Test Mode
- Repeat sending packets
- > Stop

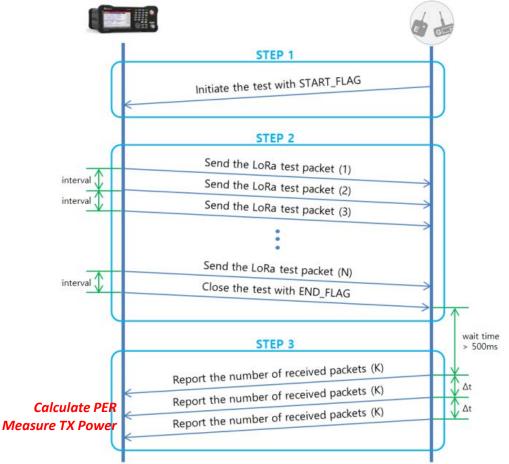


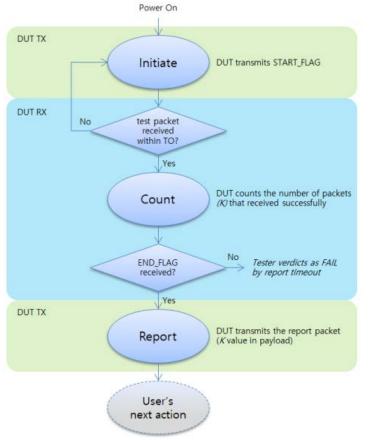
# **Manufacturing Solution 2**

Manufacturing Tests

Simultaneous T/RX Test with MFG APPlicable to all LoRa Applicable to all LoRa

Applicable to all LoRa products (end-devices & gateways)





# **Example of MFG Test Time**

**Manufacturing Tests** 

- Test time may depend on
  - SF
  - Payload length
  - Number of packets
  - Frame interval

#### **Elapsed Test Time in sec**

Number of packets	50	100	200
SF7	11	21	38
SF8	12	23	44
SF9	16	29	56
SF10	24	47	91
SF11	41	80	156
SF12	76	148	292

Determine the best test condition for your manufacturing tests!



### **Feedback**

# Thank you



# Questions?

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