# Wireless Selection Guide



# Defining and leading wireless

With reliable and highly robust communication

"Wireless" is not a technology – it's a commitment. It's not about what works. It's about how well it works. For over a decade, we have worked with state-of-the art Industrial and Medical Ready wireless solutions, designed and tested for demanding applications and environments. We drive the wireless technology evolution and thereby we define what will be the wireless future.

Our offering consist of ready-to-embed modules and ready-to-use products based on Classic Bluetooth technology, Bluetooth low energy technology and Wireless LAN (WLAN). We also offer custom design solutions based on these technologies and IEEE 802.15.4 / ZigBee.

# Why choose connectBlue?

Fanciful sales talk is easy, but we stick to facts. And there are some clear facts that set us apart from any other wireless provider on the market.

#### Long-term Availability

Since the start in 2000, our offering has continuously evolved and yet our form factor has remained unchanged with consistent electrical, mechanical, software and antenna interfaces.

In fact, we have customers who have shipped products for 12 years with a minimum of software changes and no hardware changes on their Printed Circuit Board (PCB).

#### **Outstanding Reliability**

Our products are tailored to fit the toughest of situations; the products offer an extended temperature range (-40° to +85°C), have a built-in watchdog timer for secure system design, and operate faultless 24/7 regardless of EMC conditions, dust, humidity, temperature variations, and rapid movement changes.

#### **Best Performance**

We own, develop and maintain our Bluetooth stack and WLAN software drivers. Not only do we own these, over the years we have used them for several different chipset manufacturers and designs, tuning and expanding them to get the best performance and controlled latency, throughput and power consumption. The products have customizable configuration parameters and are radio type approved for US, European, Canadian, Japanese markets as well as are compliant with EMC, Safety and Medical standards, and the Bluetooth qualification program.



#### **Wireless Technology Comparison**

WIRELESS STANDARD	Classic Bluetooth technology	Bluetooth low energy technology	Wireless LAN (WLAN)
Data throughput	+/-	-	++
Robustness	++	++	+/-
Range	10-300m	10-250m	50-300m
Local system density	++	++	-
Roaming	+	N/A	++
Large scale network	-	+	+/-
Low latency	+++	++	+/-
Connection set-up speed	-	++	+/-
Power consumption	+	+++	-
Cost	+	++	-

#### Interchangeability

The connectBlue standard form factor and connectors allow for interchangeability between Bluetooth technology and WLAN. But that is not all; you can also change products within a product family seamlessly. In other words, you get complete system design flexibility.

#### **Quality Manufacturing & Support**

Our head office lies in the wireless epicenter of Southern Sweden. There, we also utilize the resources from external, high quality manufacturing facilities (ISO9001, ISO13485, etc.) where each product is individually tested and tuned for consistent performance. We have local German and US sales offices and first-line support backed by the US and European technical teams allowing for a virtually 24 hour coverage.

#### **Future-proof Dependability**

We drive the technology development in the wireless standard forums. We track and even promote the new standards within our product portfolio.

# Which wireless technology fits best?

One wireless technology cannot offer all the features and strengths that fit the various application requirements. We help you find the solution that best fits your needs.

 Choose Classic Bluetooth technology for robust communication in rough environments.
 Robust features include Adaptive Frequency Hopping (AFV), Forward Error Correction (FEC), automatic power control and high system density (several connections in the same radio space).

- Choose Bluetooth low energy technology when you want to connect to batteryoperated small devices, smartphones, tablets, gateways, etc.
- Choose WLAN 802.11 a, b, g, n (commonly referred to as Wi-Fi) if you want to connect to an existing LAN / WLAN infrastructure or create high throughput ad-hoc networks.

#### Bluetooth Single-mode & Dual-mode

Classic Bluetooth implementations are singlemode implementations. But with the addition of Bluetooth low energy there are also single-mode Bluetooth low energy devices known as Bluetooth Smart devices.

Dual-mode devices, also known as Bluetooth Smart Ready devices, include both Bluetooth low energy and Classic Bluetooth technologies. That means that you can, for instance, in parallel connect a number of Classic Bluetooth single-mode modules (OBS418/419/etc.) as well a number of Bluetooth low energy single-mode modules (OLS425/426) to a Bluetooth dual-mode module (OBS421).

# Interchangeable and future safe

All products share the connectBlue standard for form factor and fitting, connectors, antennas as well as configuration and control software tools

### Where does "wireless" fit you?

#### **Wireless Serial Communication**

Developed to meet tough demands, connect-Blue products handle robust serial communication (UART, RS232/422/485) with point-to-point, mult-point cable replacement or multi-drop functionality.

#### **Wireless Ethernet Communication**

The connectBlue Rugged Ethernet Port Adapters are especially well-suited for replacing Ethernet cables either in point-to-point applications or in a wireless infrastructure where seamless roaming is important. For those that prefer to embed modules in host devices, the connectBlue Wireless LAN SPI / SDIO modules provide fully radio type approved dual-band solutions.

#### Wireless Signal Acquisition and I/O

Digital or analog signals can be wirelessly mirrored or controlled from a Bluetooth equipped device using a connectBlue low energy module OLP425.

# Wireless Customer Specific Software Development Platforms

The connectBlue platforms offer a possibility to embed customer specific software in the modules to save development cost, time to market, and product cost.

#### **Wireless Custom Design Development**

Often, our custom design development is based on available connectBlue software and hardware solutions but it could also be a completely new design if so required.

#### WIRELESS ADVANTAGES

- Greater mobility and possibility to move devices and connect to smartphones and tablets freely without constraining cables
- Bypassing long distances and areas where cables cannot phaysically fit
- Fast and easy installation and commissioning
- High flexibility if there is a need to modify an installation
- Increased personal safety by not having to be physically close to a device during configuration and/or maintenance
- Easy integration of devices into the network

# What "wireless" solution should you buy?

Based on your particular use case, connectBlue has a solution that fits you. Choose between ready-to-embed wireless modules or ready-to-use wireless products – all developed to satisfy industrial and medical needs on robustness, time-to-market and performance.

#### **Ready-to-Use Products**

If you wish to implement a complete wireless product, we offer a wide range of ready-to-use industrial products that all improve production, economy and safety. With these products, you can be up and running quickly and as they have an IP65-classed housing, they operate flawlessly 24/7 under the harshest of conditions.

#### **Ready-to-Embed Modules**

By embedding our modules, you

save on cost and time compared to if you develop the wireless solution on your own. Developing your own solution takes 6-18 months and costs 150-500kEUR / 200-650kUSD depending on technology, frequencies / channels, test system, radio type approvals, etc. And 3-5 years later when the chipset reaches its last time buy, you have to do it all over again. connectBlue offers a wide range of modules, fully certified and pre-tested as well as a full range of accessories.

#### **Ready-to-Customize Platforms**

You can use the Bluetooth platform modules to reduce your hardware costs by implementing your application on top of the integrated stack. For instance, customer applications can be run in the OLP425 and OBS421. Possible applications include protocol converter, filtering and signal processing, and gateway using multiple UARTs.

#### Useful connectBlue features

This guide covers all the features of the connect-Blue product range, but there are some of these that we want to cover in depth.

#### **Seamless Roaming & Redundancy**

With a variety of wireless technologies operating in the same radio space, the performance on the existing wireless connections can be affected or even terminated during the necessary scanning for new wireless networks.

With the connectBlue seamless roaming, the actual switch-over takes place in just a few milliseconds using standard access points. Another advantage is the opportunity to combine roaming with redundancy.

Further, since we offer solutions across various technologies, we can offer the most robust solution for a particular use case scenario.

#### 2.4 and 5GHz Dual-band Support

Besides WLAN IEEE 802.11 b, g, n other wireless technologies like Bluetooth technology, IEEE 802.15.4 / ZigBee / Wireless HART and several proprietary technologies operate in the 2.4GHz band. To make sure that the WLAN solution is robust, one can focus on IEEE 802.11 a (5GHz) for the manufacturing and M2M communication. connectBlue offers dual-band functionality and an expanded frequency channel range in the 5GHz ISM band. See support details in the tables.

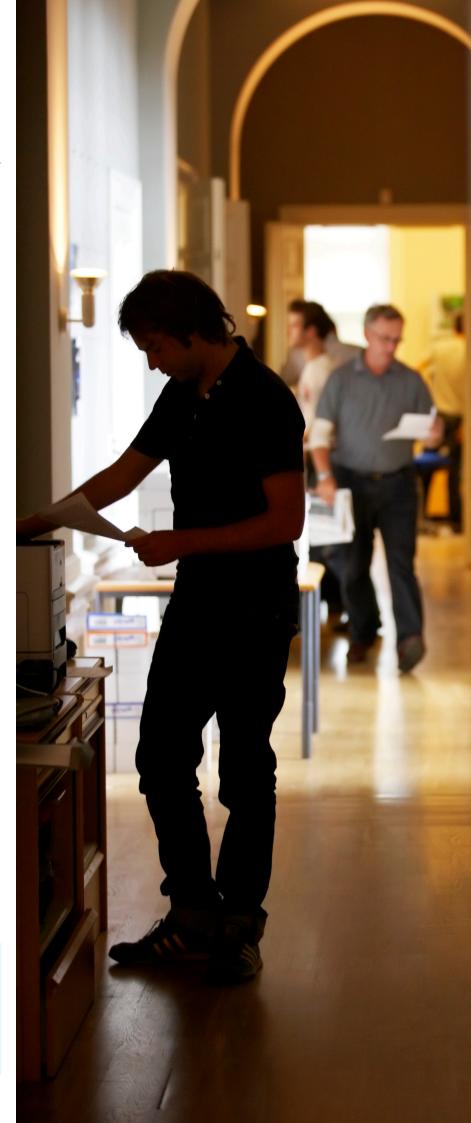
#### iPhone/Android Support

connectBlue offers WLAN and Bluetooth module support for Android / Apple iPhone / iPod touch / iPad connectivity which makes data handling easier in industrial and medical applications. The modules are tested and approved by Apple. See support details in the tables.

#### **USEFUL HOW-TO-DO'S**

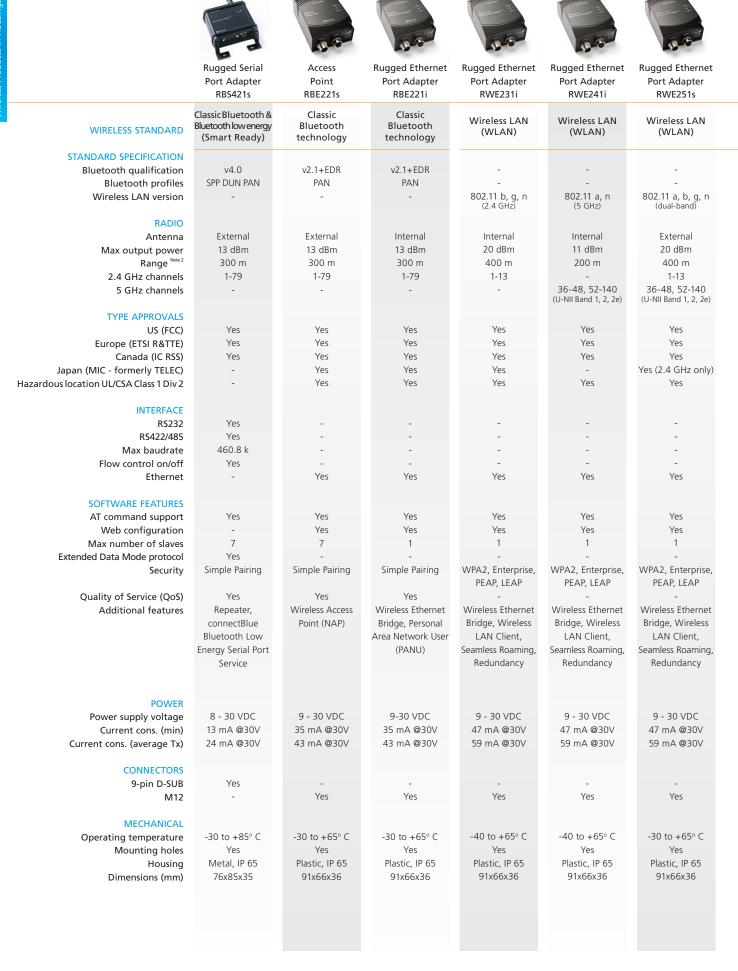
connectBlue's website features 15+ in depth articles and white papers that detail the possibilities as well as best practices in different wireless technologies in tough industrial and medical environments.

Visit www.connectblue.com/about-us for more information.



# Ready-to-use products for the robust need

Products that improve production, economy and safety. IP65 classed housing, fully certified and tested.





Serial Port Adapters (SPA) replacing the serial cables with wireless connections in point-to-point and multidrop setups.



WLAN Ethernet Port Adapters (EPA) for connecting Ethernet devices to an ethernet infrastructure via a WLAN Access Point.



Ethernet Port Adapters (EPA) replacing the Ethernet cable with wireless connection. The connection between the EPAs is point-to-point in Bluetooth technology and ad-hoc in WLAN.

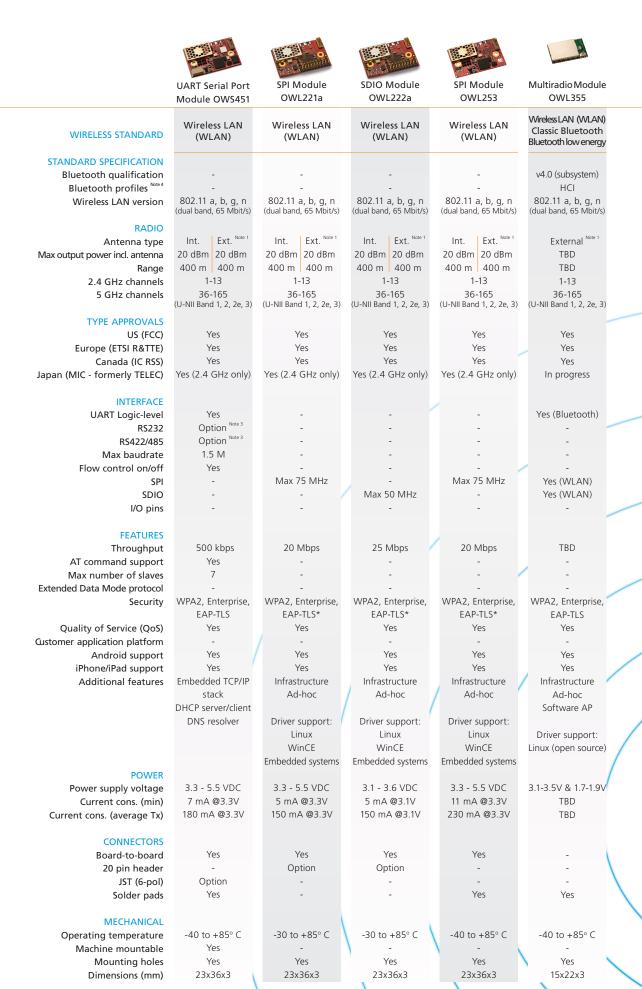


WLAN / Bluetooth Ethernet Port Adapter (EPA) connecting to an Ethernet infrastructure via multiple Access Points. The Ethernet Port Adapter supports several modes of superior roaming between available Access Points, including seamless roaming.

# Ready-to-embed modules that are certified and fully tested

Benefit from the advantages of low-power modules that are fully certified and tested

			e.			
	Serial Port Module	Serial Port Module	Serial Port Module	iOS Serial Port	LowEnergyPlatform	Serial Port Module
	OBS 418	OBS 419	OBS 421	Module OBS424* <sup>Note4</sup>	Module OLP425	OLS425 / OLS426
WIRELESS STANDARD	Classic	Classic	Classic Bluetooth &	Classic Bluetooth &	Bluetooth low	Bluetooth low
	Bluetooth	Bluetooth	Bluetooth low energy	Bluetooth low energy	energy technology	energy technology
	technology	technology	(Smart Ready)	(Smart Ready)	(Bluetooth Smart)	(Bluetooth Smart)
STANDARD SPECIFICATION Bluetooth qualification Bluetooth profiles Note 4 Wireless LAN version	v2.1	v2.1+EDR	v4.0	v4.0	v4.0	v4.0
	SPP DUN	SPP DUN PAN	SPP DUN PAN	SPP PAN	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
RADIO Antenna type Max output power incl. antenna Range 2.4 GHz channels 5 GHz channels	Internal External 6 dBm 8 dBm 75 m 150 m 1-79	Internal External 6 dBm 8 dBm 75 m 150 m 1-79	Internal External 11 dBm 13 dBm 300 m 300 m 1-79	Internal External 11 dBm 13 dBm 300 m 300 m 1-79	Internal External 3 dBm 6 dBm 200 m 1-39	Internal External 3 dBm 6 dBm 50 m 200 m 1-39
TYPE APPROVALS US (FCC) Europe (ETSI R&TTE) Canada (IC RSS) Japan (MIC - formerly TELEC)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
INTERFACE UART Logic-level RS232 RS422/485 Max baudrate	Yes Option Note 3 Option Note 3 460.8 k	Yes Option Note 3 Option Note 3 1.25 M	Yes Option Note 3 Option Note 3 1.5 M	Yes Option Note 3 - 1.5 M	Yes - - - 115.2 k	Yes - - - 115.2 k
Flow control on/off	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
SPI	-	-	-	-	Yes	-
SDIO	-	-	-	-	-	-
I/O pins	9 digital	9 digital	9 digital	9 digital	18 dig, 4 AD conv	11 digital
Throughput AT command support Max number of slaves Extended Data Mode protocol Security	350 kbps	950 kbps	1.3 Mbps	1.3 Mbps	-	TBD
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes
	1	3	7	7	3	1
	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-
	Simple Pairing	Simple Pairing	Simple Pairing	Simple Pairing	Simple Pairing	Simple Pairing
Quality of Service (QoS)  Customer application platform  Android support  iPhone/iPad support  Additional features	Yes - Yes -	Yes - Yes Yes (via host) Repeater	Yes Yes Yes Yes (via host) Repeater, connectBlue Bluetooth Low Energy Serial Port Service	Yes - Yes Yes (on board) Repeater connectBlue Bluetooth Low Energy Serial Port Service	Yes Yes Yes Yes Options: battery holder, temperature sensor, accelero- meters, etc.	Yes Yes Yes connectBlue Low Energy Serial Port Service
POWER Power supply voltage Current cons. (min) Current cons. (average Tx)  CONNECTORS	3.0 - 6.0 VDC	3.0 - 6.0 VDC	3.0 - 6.0 VDC	3.0 - 6.0 VDC	2.0 - 3.6 VDC	2-3.6 VDC / 3-6 VDC
	12 mA @3.0V	0.6 mA @3.0V	0.6 mA @3.0V	2 mA @3.0V	0.4 µA @2.0V	0.4 μΑ / 6.7 μΑ
	20 mA @3.0V	20 mA @3.0V	44 mA @3.0V	46 mA @3.0V	-	10 mA @ 3.0V
Board-to-board 20 pin header JST (6-pol) Solder pads	Yes - - Yes	Yes - Option Yes	Yes - Option Yes	Yes - Option Yes	- - Option Yes	- / Yes - - - Yes
MECHANICAL Operating temperature Machine mountable Mounting holes Dimensions (mm)	-30 to +85° C	-30 to +85° C	-30 to +85° C	-30 to +85° C	-40 to +85° C	-40 to +85° C
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	16x36x3	16x36x3	16x36x3	23x36x4	15x22x3	15x22x3 / 16x36x5



# Get started smoothly

Acquire valuable understanding of the wireless module's functionality, configuration options, performance etc.

	SPA Accessory Kit USB	SPA Accessory Kit RS232	Bluetooth SPA Starter Kit USB OBS419	Bluetooth SPA Starter Kit RS232 OBS419	iOS Bluetooth SPA Starter Kit OBS424*	Bluetooth SPA Starter Kit USB OBS421	Bluetooth SPA Starter Kit RS232 OBS421
WIRELESS STANDARD	-	-	Classic Bluetooth technology	Classic Bluetooth technology	Classic Bluetooth & Bluetooth low energy	Classic Bluetooth & Bluetooth low energy	Classic Bluetooth & Bluetooth low energy
CONTENTS Wireless module Adapter board Others	- USB adapter USB extension cable, documenta- tion and configu- ration tools	RS232 adapter 9-pin serial cable, USB Power cable, documentation and configuration tools	OBS419i USB adapter USB extension cable, JST cable, documentation and configuration tools	OBS419i RS232 adapter 9-pin serial cable, USB Power cable, JST cable, docu- mentation and configuration tools	OBS424i* USB adapter USB extension cable, JST cable, documentation and configuration tools	OBS421i USB adapter USB extension cable, documenta- tion and configu- ration tools	OBS421i RS232 adapter 9-pin serial cable, USB Power cable, documentation and configuration tools
COMPATIBLE MODULES	OBS418 OBS419 OBS421 OBS424 OLS426 OWS451	OBS418 OBS419 OBS421 OBS424 OLS426	OBS418 OBS419 (included) OBS421 OBS424	OBS418 OBS419 (included) OBS421 OBS424	OBS424* (included)	OBS421 (included) OBS424	OBS421 (included) OBS424
ORDER NUMBER	cB-ACC-41	cB-ACC-26	cB-OBS419i-06-B	cB-OBS419i-06-A	cB-OBS424i-06-B	cB-OBS421i-16-B	cB-OBS421i-16-A

	Bluetooth SPA Starter Kit USB OLS426	Bluetooth SPA Starter Kit RS232 OLS426	Bluetooth Low Energy Platform Starter Kit OLP425	WLAN SPA Starter Kit USB OWS451	WLAN SPI / SDIO Evaluation system
WIRELESS STANDARD	Bluetooth low energy technology	Bluetooth low energy technology	Bluetooth low energy technology	Wireless LAN (WLAN)	Wireless LAN (WLAN)
CONTENTS Wireless module Adapter board Others	OLS426 USB adapter USB extension cable, documenta- tion and configu- ration tools	OLS426 RS232 adapter 9-pin serial cable, USB Power cable, documentation and configuration tools	OLP425 CC Debugger adapter JST/JST crossover cable, documen- tation	OWS451i USB adapter USB extension cable, documenta- tion and configu- ration tools	OWL253i / 222ai Keith&Koep µConXS Trizeps IV board, µConXS adapter, SDIO adapter, Linux drivers in binary code
COMPATIBLE MODULES	OBS421 OLS426 (included)	OBS421 OLS426 (included)	OLP425 <sup>5</sup> (included)	OWS451 (included)	OWL221 OWL222 (included) OWL253 (included)

#### **Explanations on Table Notes**

- 1 Diversity supported
- 2 Approximate maximum range
- 3 Via external transciever
- 4 Special licensing & production requirements applies for the Classic Bluetooth products
- 5 JST connector required

<sup>\*</sup> In progress

# Your business. Our total wireless expertise. One wireless product.

This is what we do. We provide a safe step into the wireless future.

Imagine equipment that is in constant rapid motion at -30° C; it is monitored, maintained, updated and operated wirelessly from a distance, massively increasing uptime and personal safety. Or, imagine a sensitive gene duplication sequence where the whole gene process is performed in a 100% sterile environment due to high-speed reliable wireless solutions. This is the essence of connectBlue - wireless solutions based on tough industrial and medical demands on robustness, lead-times and performance.

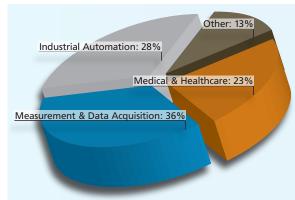
Together with our clients, we create solutions that improve, not only production economy and safety, sometimes we help push the limits of science as well. And all this using a seamless nerve-system that cuts through walls, floors and ceilings.

Working with connectBlue isn't just about buying a wireless product. It's combining forces to find the best wireless solution. The mix of combined expertise is filtered through a toolbox of software, hardware and industry-specific specialists and poured into a wireless product that is provoked, tested, stressed, certified, and then tested over and over again.

connectBlue was founded in 2000. From years of experience within industries with tough demands, connectBlue focused on a few key requirements: compatibility, extended life cycles and performance. Still today, these requirements are the focus of the connectBlue delivery.

Today, we employ 35 experts where 20+ are wireless engineers with deep knowhow from key segments. Our head office lies in Sweden and our top-notch external production facilities are also in Sweden. We have local sales and support from the offices in Germany and the USA. And, on top of that, connectBlue has distributors in 50+ countries.

Working at connectBlue means working with some of the world's most demanding



#### WIRELESS SEGMENTS

connectBlue is a leading wireless provider for demanding applications in the segments industrial automation, medical & healthcare, measurement & data acquisition, diagnostics, infrastructure, professional vehicles and point of sales.

brands and industries (look at our list of clients). They in themselves represent the highest standard of innovation in their industry segments. This is why we have to excel at what we do. We employ and develop staff with great experience from tough demands on lead-times, performance and technical documentation as well as young and innovative brains that can define the future of wireless technology.

Together we solve issues of today using the technology of tomorrow.



# Wireless is not a technology. It's a commitment.

We have been in wireless since back in 2000 when we launched the world's first wireless serial port adapter. Based on Classic Bluetooth technology, Bluetooth low energy technology, Wireless LAN (WLAN) and IEEE 802.15.4 / ZigBee, we provide ready-to-use products and modules as well as custom design solutions.

Our head office lies in the wireless epicenter of Southern Sweden. There, we also utilize the resources from external, high quality manufacturing facilities where each product is individually tested and tuned for consistent performance. We have local German and US sales offices and first-line support backed by the European technical team allowing for a virtually 24 hour coverage.

For more than a decade, we have helped some of the world's most demanding brands to exploit new possibilities of wireless technologies. Our wireless solutions are designed and tested for the most demanding applications and environments in industrial automation, medical & healthcare, measurement & data acquisition, professional vehicles, and point of sales.

Our product strategy is simple.

State-of-the-art solutions. Nothing less.



