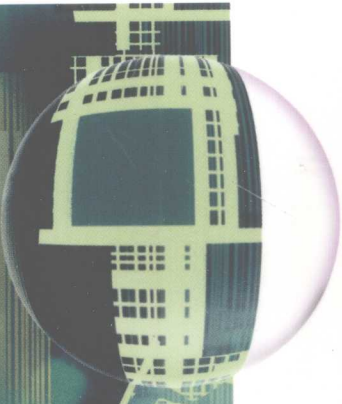


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GPRS

General Packet Radio Service



Putting the pieces of GPRS together —
using hundreds of diagrams

Overlaying data on existing cellular networks

Mobile user market drivers

GPRS interaction with IP, X.25, and Frame Relay

GPRS and VPNs

REGIS J. "BUD" BATES

GPRS

Regis J. (Bud) Bates

TN92911 / B329

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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 AGM/AGM 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

ISBN 0-07-138188-0

The sponsoring editor for this book was Steve Chapman and the production supervisor was Pamela Pelton. It was set in Century Schoolbook by MacAllister Publishing Services, LLC.

Printed and bound by Quebecor/Martinsburg.

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MCGRAW-HILL TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Bates Broadband Telecommunications Handbook
Bates Optical Switching and Networking Handbook
Bates Wireless Broadband Handbook
Bates GPRS

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Regis (Bud) Bates has more than 35 years of experience in telecommunications and management information systems (MIS). He oversees the operation of TC International Consulting, Inc., a full service management consulting organization. He has been involved in the design of major networks including LANs and WANs. His clients span the range of Fortune 100-500 companies. Many of his projects deal with multiple sites and countries using Frame Relay, ATM, and Optical architectures. He has also done a significant amount of work in the wireless communications area.

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Bud also works with venture capitalists for various analyses and studies. One of his recommendations got the investors to increase the recommended funding from \$100 million to more than \$400 million. He has consistently been on the mark with his projections.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Well, here I am again, finalizing the latest book for McGraw-Hill. This one is different because it focuses on a single subject! The idea for this book came earlier this year, but has blossomed quite a bit since then because of the progress being made in the industry.

This book deals with the issues surrounding the data and wireless industry as the two converge. I hope that this material is comfortable for you, the reader, because there is so little published about GPRS for the novice and business professional.

To be fair about this production, I owe a lot of credit to many people. Some of the people interacted with me regularly, others only occasionally. First, I must thank Steve Chapman, who is McGraw-Hill's executive editor on this book and a super person. Steve knew that the deadlines were approaching, but kept his cool and kept after me. Numerous other people aided in the editing and production of the book—far too many to name. They know who they are and can give themselves a pat on the back for their efforts. Also worth special mention is Molly Applegate who has worked with me on two other books. Keeping track of books from the same author has to be a challenge in itself, especially when many of the topics seem to run together. Molly's usual tenacity got the final production together. Then there are the vendors and manufacturers we talk to daily regarding products, services, and opportunities. All add to the knowledge in this book.

Two people in my office deserve the lion's share of the credits for the ultimate graphical representation and production of this book. First is Gabriele, who is my wife and partner of more than three decades. She is the steady contributor to my production. Gabriele truly deserves to have her name on the cover of this book because she has been a partner in the production of the preceding 14 books and barely gets mention. Second is a young lady whose energy and enthusiasm I have mentioned before: Amber Hartmann (our specialty graphics person). Amber and Gabriele worked dauntlessly to keep the graphics accurate and readable while at the same time creating interesting renderings. All this, despite the technical aspects of the drawings, had to be maintained. On more than one occasion, these two ladies were cursing the technical drawings because of their complexity. Yet, they both came through in record time.

This team of people all pulled together to make *GPRS* a reality. They all deserve the credit more than I.

As usual, I want to especially thank you, the reader, for giving up your time to read this book. I receive many calls and e-mails from readers who just want to let me know that they enjoyed my opinion or the way I presented an idea. I hope I can continue to win your support. My best wishes to you all!

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