

SolarTech Power Solutions

Power requirements for a single 5G base station



Overview

What are the components of a 5G base station?

Baseband Unit (BBU): Handles baseband signal processing. Remote Radio Unit (RRU): Converts signals to radio frequencies for transmission. Active Antenna Unit (AAU): Integrates RRU and antenna for 5G-era efficiency. 2. Power Supply System This acts as the “blood supply” of the base station, ensuring uninterrupted power. It includes:.

How do engineers design 5G base stations?

Engineers designing 5G base stations must contend with energy use, weight, size, and heat, which impact design decisions. 5G New Radio (NR) uses Multi-User massive-MIMO (MU-MIMO), Integrated Access and Backhaul (IAB), and beamforming with millimeter wave (mmWave) spectrum up to 71 GHz.

How does a 5G base station reduce OPEX?

This technique reduces opex by putting a base station into a “sleep mode,” with only the essentials remaining powered on. Pulse power leverages 5G base stations’ ability to analyze traffic loads. In 4G, radios are always on, even when traffic levels don’t warrant it, such as transmitting reference signals to detect users in the middle of the night.

What is 5G NR?

The 5G NR standard has been designed based on the knowledge of the typical traffic activity in radio networks as well as the need to support sleep states in radio network equipment. By putting the base station into a sleep state when there is no traffic to serve i.e. switching off hardware components, it will consume less energy.

Should a 5G power amplifier be combined with a power amplifier?

For 5G, infrastructure OEMs are considering combining the radio, power amplifier and associated signal processing circuits with the passive antenna

array in active antenna units (AAU). While AAUs improve performance and simplify installation, they also require the power supply to share a heatsink with the power amplifier for cooling.

What is 5G New Radio?

5G New Radio (NR) is designed to enable denser network deployments and simultaneously deliver increased energy efficiency, thus reducing both operational costs and environmental impacts. Before we explore the new technical features, let's look more closely at how the existing 4G LTE radio networks function.

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