NETW0RK PROCESSING FORUM (NPF) GAINS THREE NEW MEMBERS

The Electronics And Telecommunications Research Institute, Nortel Networks And NTT Electronics Will Help Define Future Network Processing Interfaces And Benchmarks

Fremont, CA - (February 10, 2004) – Leading the development of network processing standards and benchmarks, the Network Processing Forum (NPF) today announced that three organizations, the Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute (ETRI) of Korea, Nortel Networks and NTT Electronics Corporation joined the membership of the NPF. The addition of these new companies is an indicator that there is renewed global interest in networking and network processing technologies. As members of the NPF, these companies will play a vital role in the development of new network processing interface specifications and benchmarks.

“The NPF is pleased to have such experienced and insightful organizations join the Forum,” said Misha Nossik, chair of the board of the Network Processing Forum. “All three of these new members have made important contributions to the fields of data networking and telecommunications. The knowledge they bring will add to the depth and quality of our interface specifications and benchmarks.”

“NTT Electronics is pleased to be a part of the Network Processing Forum,” said Yoshikazu Chiba, Executive Director of NTT Electronics. “Our ability to influence new network processing specifications and benchmarks will ensure that new networking equipment provides the functionality needed to offer new competitive telecommunications services.”

Pervasive network processing interface specifications will reduce costs and make it easier to integrate multi-vendor network processing hardware and software into high ROI networking solutions. Because of this, it is critical that equipment vendors, software developers, research organizations and System OEMS participate in the development of network processing Implementation Agreements to ensure that each
The main advantage of joining the Forum is the ability to influence the specifications and benchmarks that the Forum produces. This enables organizations to tailor the development process in a number of strategic areas including making it easier to migrate existing architectures, ensuring Implementation Agreements meet immediate and long-term technology and business needs, minimizing the impact of specifications on competitive differentiation, and minimizing porting costs. Participation also provides members with the ability to introduce and champion new development programs, provide critical development prioritization, and have equal influence on specification development as their competitors.

“As evidence of recent news reports and the addition of these three organizations to the Forum, it is apparent that the networking industry is rebounding in 2004,” said Bernie Keany, vice-chair of the board of the Network Processing Forum. “As this growth accelerates, network processing standards and benchmarks will play an even greater role in the development of new networking equipment and will draw more organizations to participate in the Forum. We look forward to adding new members throughout 2004.”

**About The Network Processing Forum**

Founded in 2001, the Network Processing Forum (NPF) is an international industry consortium of networking semiconductor, software and OEM manufacturers accelerating the adoption of network processing technologies through the development and implementation of network processing standards and benchmarks. By establishing standard interfaces and benchmarks, the NPF helps semiconductor manufacturers, software developers, services companies and system OEM’s lower development costs, shorten design cycles, reduce product time-to-market and increase product time-in-market. The Forum includes members from around the world that provide network processing products and services globally. For more information, visit the NPF website at [www.npforum.org](http://www.npforum.org).