OPTICAL INTERNETWORKING FORUM ELECTS NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Industry Leaders Take Helm of Top Optical Networking Association

FREMONT, CA - October 23, 2002 – The Optical Internetworking Forum (OIF) announced today that it has elected a new board of directors for 2002-2003. The board of directors oversees the long-term direction of the Forum and coordinates the efforts of OIF’s working groups.

For the 2002-2003 term, returning board member Joe Berthold, vice president of network architecture at Ciena Corporation was named president. Newly elected to the board of directors are Olga Aparicio, principal engineer in the strategic network planning group at Cable & Wireless and Doug Zuckerman, senior scientist at Telcordia. Reelected board members include Tom Palkert, systems architect manager at AMCC; John McDonough, technology standards manager at Cisco Systems, named vice president; Gerry Baranano, vice president of sales at Nortel Networks renamed vice president of marketing; and Tom Afferton, division manager at AT&T Labs, who continues as OIF’s treasurer and secretary.

"The new board is as strong as any that we’ve ever had at the OIF," said Sid Chaudhuri, outgoing OIF president. “They are an ideal group to tackle the challenges the OIF faces in light of the current conditions in the optical networking industry.”

Reelected OIF officers include Steve Joiner, chief marketing strategist at Ignis Optics as chairman of the OIF Technical Committee and Dan Spears, director of optical network services at Ciena Corporation as the OIF Technical Committee vice chairman. Joydip Das, director of product management at Altamar Networks was reelected as OIF’s Market Awareness and Education Committee chairman.
About the OIF

Launched in April of 1998, the OIF is a rapidly growing, non-profit organization with more than 250 international member companies, including many of the world’s leading carriers and vendors. As the only industry group uniting representatives from data and optical networks, the OIF helps advance the standards and methods of optical networks. OIF’s purpose is to accelerate the deployment of interoperable, cost-effective and robust optical internetworks and their associated technologies. Optical internetworks are data networks composed of routers and data switches interconnected by optical networking elements.

With the goal of promoting worldwide compatibility of optical internetworking products, the OIF actively supports and extends the work of national and international standards bodies. Formal liaisons have been established with The ATM Forum, IEEE 802.3ae (10 Gb Ethernet), IETF, ITU-T Study Group 15, MEF, NPF, T1M1, T1X1 and the TMF. More information on the OIF can be found at www.oiforum.com.

###