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TOP EQUIPMENT VENDORS STEP FORWARD FOR OIF'S GLOBAL INTEROPERABILITY DEMONSTRATION

Fremont, CA – August 22, 2007 – Eight of the world's leading equipment vendors have answered the call of the Optical Internetworking Forum to showcase interoperability in a multi-carrier environment during the OIF's Worldwide Interoperability Demonstration - *On-Demand Ethernet Services*. Participating vendors span the globe including Alcatel-Lucent, Ciena Corporation, Ericsson, Huawei Technologies, Marben Products, Sycamore Networks, Tellabs and ZTE. Participating OIF Carrier members include AT&T, China Telecom, Deutsche Telekom, France Telecom Group, KDDI, Telecom Italia and Verizon.

The test phase of the event has been underway in Carrier labs since June 2007. Interoperability testing of heterogeneous network equipment includes MSPPs, routers, Ethernet switches, cross-connects, OADMs in the data plane, as well as both embedded and proxy controllers in the control plane.

“The multi-vendor aspect of the interoperability testing gives carriers confidence that different vendor and technology domains can work together,” said Jim Jones of Alcatel-Lucent and the OIF's Technical Committee chair. “This type of interoperability testing is essential for transitioning new technology from labs to carrier networks.”

OIF participating members are demonstrating end-to-end provisioning of dynamic switched Ethernet services over multiple, control-plane enabled intelligent optical core networks through the use of OIF implementation agreements UNI 2.0 and E-NNI including:

- *Ethernet Private Line* - allowing carriers to leverage existing TDM infrastructure to carry Ethernet
- *Neighbor Discovery* - automating what is currently a manual provision process between neighbors
- *Control Plane Failure Recovery* - an important carrier-class reliability feature
- *Non-Disruptive Bandwidth Modification* - optimizes network operation and resources by adapting to bursty data traffic flows

"The OIF's demo is a truly global effort, requiring vendors to commit to installing their products in carrier labs and supporting round the clock testing of the functionality and reliability of their optical equipment," said Lyndon Ong of Ciena and the OIF's Technical Committee vice chair. "Participating vendors demonstrate support of mature, stable interoperable specifications from the OIF and participate in leading edge prototyping of the use of the control plane to open new avenues for carriers to deliver services through their optical networks."

Combining service provider private testing and a public demonstration, OIF's 2007 Worldwide Interoperability Demonstration - *On-Demand Ethernet Services* is based upon intra-lab testing among each of the participating Carrier sites. The test sites are linked via virtual or real E-NNI connections, forming a global test network topology. The event enables testing with more vendor implementations, allowing carriers to access additional network resources beyond the boundaries of their existing networks on a global scale.

Public Access to Interoperability Demo

The 2007 OIF Worldwide Interoperability Demonstration - *On-Demand Ethernet Services* will culminate in a public demonstration of the results at ECOC 2007, September 17-19, 2007 in Berlin at the OIF booth, # 17075 in Hall 17.

About the OIF

Launched in April of 1998, the OIF is the only industry group uniting

representatives from data and optical networking disciplines, including many of the world's leading carriers, component manufacturers and system vendors. The OIF promotes the development and deployment of interoperable networking solutions and services through the creation of Implementation Agreements (IAs) for optical, interconnect, network processing and component technologies, and optical networking systems. The OIF actively supports and extends the work of standards bodies with the goal of promoting worldwide compatibility of optical internetworking products. Working relationships or formal liaisons have been established with the IEEE 802.3, IETF, ITU-T Study Group 13, ITU-T Study Group 15, IPv6 Forum, MFA Forum, MEF, MVA, ATIS OPTXS, ATIS TMOC, Rapid I/O, TMF, UXPi and the XFP MSA Group. Information on the OIF can be found at www.oiforum.com <http://www.oiforum.com>.