



Contact:

Kendra Gross
Porchivina & Associates
Phone: 415-893-9138
Fax: 415-893-8185
E-mail: kendra@papr.com

BRIGHTEST LIGHTS IN OPTICAL NETWORKING CHARGE INTO OIF INTEROPERABILITY DEMONSTRATION

SUPERCOMM Attendees Will Have Ringside Seat for Live Demo

FREMONT, CA – June 9, 2004 - The Optical Internetworking Forum (OIF) unveiled today the fifteen industry leaders that have been participating in the intra and inter-carrier planning and testing preparations for the Forum's World Interoperability Demonstration. This activity has been ongoing for the past four weeks. The participants and suppliers include: ADVA Optical Networking, Alcatel, Avici Systems, CIENA Corporation, Cisco Systems, Fujitsu, Lucent Technologies, Mahi Networks, Marconi, NEC, Nortel Networks, Siemens AG, Sycamore Networks, Tellabs and Turin Networks.

The OIF's World Interoperability Demonstration is hosted remotely by some of the world's leading telecommunications carriers, including: AT&T, China Telecom, Deutsche Telekom, KDDI R&D Laboratories, Inc., NTT Laboratories, Telecom Italia, and Verizon.

The unique event connects these seven carriers across three continents through intelligent control plane mechanisms created by a multi-vendor networking environment among the fifteen participants. Visual displays centrally located at the OIF's SUPERCOMM booth, #20334 - Hall A, provide a public showcase of the demonstration while the seven carrier locations conduct simultaneous network management and testing.

The OIF's interoperability demonstration includes network elements that incorporate Optical User-to-Network Interface (UNI) and External Network-to-Network interfaces (E-NNI). The UNI/E-NNI interoperability demo displays a

standards-based control plane for the set-up and tear-down of an optical path across multi-domain networks.

“The World Interoperability Demo represents a compelling testament to both the interest that carriers are showing in UNI and E-NNI as well as the confidence that the vendors have in their implementations,” said Joe Berthold, CIENA Corporation, president of the OIF. “The success of the demonstration validates the work of the OIF in promoting carrier deployment of integrated data and optical network technologies and highlights an industry milestone in multi carrier participation and contribution in building intelligent optical networks.”

Live network topology visualizations will be showcased at the OIF booth as service capabilities are initiated in the carrier labs by the fifteen participating OIF vendor members. Carriers are able to test new Ethernet over SONET/SDH service capabilities utilizing enhanced data encapsulation that make existing optical networks more bandwidth-efficient.

These new transport network features are based on appropriate ITU-T standards for Ethernet service adaptation. The tests include the Generic Framing Procedure (GFP), Virtual Concatenation (VCAT), and the Link Capacity Adjustment Scheme (LCAS).

The optical networking interoperability testing is based on OIF implementation agreements (IAs) for UNI 1.0 release 2 and E-NNI and includes testing of both the control and data plane and out-of-band signaling. Both IAs comply with the ITU-T suite of Recommendations on the Automatically Switched Optical Network (ASON).

The demonstration is supported by test equipment provided by Agilent Technologies and Navtel, and video streaming software provided by InfoValue Computing.

About the OIF

Launched in April of 1998, the OIF is a non-profit organization with more than 170 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. Liaisons have been established with The ATM Forum, IEEE 802.3 HSSG, IETF, ITU-T Study Group 13, ITU-T Study Group 15, MEF, NPF, T1M1, T1X1, TMF and the XFP MSA Group. More information on the OIF can be found at www.oiforum.com.