Contact:
Deborah Porchivina
Porchivina & Associates Public Relations
Phone: 415-272-0943
Email: deborah@papr.com

WORLD'S TOP CARRIERS PRONOUNCE OIF INTEROPERABILITY DEMO A SUCCESS

Ethernet Services Tested Across Vendors and Carriers in Lab Facilities Spanning the Globe

Berlin -- September 17, 2007 - Seven of the world's largest telecommunications carriers affirmed the Optical Internetworking Forum's (OIF) third Worldwide Interoperability Demonstration - *On-Demand Ethernet Services* a complete success during the public showcase at ECOC 2007 in Berlin. AT&T, China Telecom, Deutsche Telekom, France Telecom, KDDI, Telecom Italia and Verizon hosted the event at lab facilities in six countries, on three continents. The Carriers said the event was of vital importance to the industry and to the development of Ethernet Services.

The Demo was also a complete success from an equipment supplier view. Eight optical equipment suppliers highlighted solutions for support of Ethernet services over multi-domain SONET/SDH transport networks by employing OIF Implementation Agreements (IAs) in a multi-carrier, multi-vendor environment. Participating system suppliers included Alcatel-Lucent, Ciena, Ericsson, Huawei Technologies, Marben Products, Sycamore Networks, Tellabs and ZTE.

The Demo is available to be viewed publicly, this week at ECOC2007 in Hall 17, at booth #17075. For more information on the Worldwide Interoperability Demonstration visit, http://www.oiforum.com/

"The capabilities showcased in prior years has led to the development of AT&T's Optical Mesh Service, a bandwidth-on-demand capability that allows customers to build and self-administer their own SONET network using the AT&T BusinessDirect customer portal." said Sanford Brown, vice president - AT&T Connectivity and Metro Network Services. "We are looking forward to introducing new capabilities based on dynamic Ethernet services enabled by intelligent optical networks."

Jing Ruiquan, overall technical lead for the Interoperability test at China Telecom Beijing Research Institute, said, "China Telecom is pleased to host the OIF's World Interoperability Demonstration event again. As Ethernet Service has became more and more ubiquitous, we think this year's On-Demand Ethernet Services Demo will benefit all the carriers by combining ASON and Ethernet capability in their networks."

Hans-Martin Foisel, Project Manager at Deutsche Telekom, and OIF Carrier Working Group Chair and Vice President, said, "This worldwide interoperability event on On-Demand Ethernet Services focuses on major carrier requirements to provide flexible bandwidth adaptation and ease operational complexity all without impacting established connections. All of these functions make this event very valuable for carriers and give them again an excellent opportunity to gain first-hand experiences and knowledge in this networking area."

François Gallant, head of the Metro Core Network R&D Laboratory at France Telecom, "Orange Labs, the R&D division of the France Telecom group, is pleased to participate for the second time in this worldwide interoperability demonstration. We are proud helping OIF community to mature standards thanks to the tests performed in our labs. As a global operator using multiple vendors, it is critical for France Telecom to have interoperable equipment. We had the opportunity to test beforehand features that are of great importance for the evolution of our transmission networks."

Dr. Masatoshi Suzuki, executive director of KDDI R&D Laboratories, Inc. said, "The OIF Interoperability Demonstration event is quite exciting and valuable opportunity for us to collaborate with carriers and vendors towards the common goal of providing flexible and reliable Ethernet services over optical networks worldwide. The demonstration makes us confident of adopting the control plane technology under multi-vendor environment."

Mr. Emilio Vezzoni, head of TI Lab/Fixed Access and Transport/Transport & OPB Innovation at Telecom Italia, said, "Carried out by the Innovation branch of Telecom Italia Lab, the OIF Worldwide Interoperability Demonstration is an excellent opportunity for our company to demonstrate and confirm the state of the art of innovative solutions aimed at significantly simplifying transport network operation and management. This is achieved by participating in a joint effort with other carriers and vendors in the OIF framework, to assess the maturity of optical networking solutions by inter-lab interoperability testing."

William Uliasz, Director, Access and Transport Network Architecture, Verizon, said, "Progress in vendor interoperability for dynamic service provisioning using the OTN Control Plane has been fantastic. We see tremendous value in being able to provide dynamic transport capabilities on a global scale. The ability to establish bandwidth connections from 50 Mb/s to 1 Gb/s, or even 10Gb/s, over a dynamic control plane optical core network will transform how bandwidth services are viewed by our Enterprise customers. Key enablers bringing the network transformation to reality are: the economical availability of GigE access ports; and bandwidth availability and grooming expansions from OXCs, ROADMs and packet enabled transport platforms.

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.

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