

Satellite Management Services Signs Video Distribution Agreement with Dish Network

From BBP Wires

Tempe, AZ – Satellite Management Services, a national wholesale programming distributor to the private cable market, has announced the signing of an agreement to distribute the Dish Network PCO platform to operators in the private broadband industry. Under the plan, transport fees are eliminated and multiple programming packages are available from one consolidated source on a true

wholesale basis. In addition, the new platform offers a QAM solution that allows the operator to offer advanced digital services, including high definition, on existing distribution systems.

“This program finally gives the industry something that it has desperately needed since the early C Band days, a true wholesale programming platform that works for both the op-

erator and provider.” says Tom Waite, CEO of SMS.

SMS also provides access to the equipment and back office support services for operators who need it, including billing, customer service and reporting for both analog and digital services directly from their customers. For more information contact Don Bowen at 480-603-2529 or dbowen@smstv.com.

Riverstone and PacketFront Deliver End-to-End Active Ethernet Solution

From BBP Wires

Santa Clara, CA – Riverstone Networks, a pioneer in carrier Ethernet routing, and PacketFront, have entered into a cooperative agreement to provide carriers with an integrated, end-to-end Active Ethernet solution. The solution, available immediately, will be primarily targeted at European service providers.

The collaboration between the companies leverages the Riverstone 15008 Ethernet Edge Router in the metro edge and core and PacketFront’s fully automated broadband solution including its ASR aggregation and access routers

and BECS(TM) system software used for control and provisioning of network elements and triple play services. The combined solution is intended to allow carriers to more rapidly deploy open access FTTH networks without interoperability trials between vendor platforms.

The co-operative relationship between Riverstone and PacketFront provides both vendors with the supplementary solutions and technology needed to effectively compete in carrier bids and allows each to leverage the technology of the other to create additional sales op-

portunities.

“It’s all about time-to-market,” said Bob Beauchamp, Channel Marketing Manager, Riverstone Networks. “The carriers who successfully roll out triple-play services first gain a decided competitive advantage, as do the equipment vendors whose products are embedded in those deployments.”

Riverstone calls this collaboration with other vendors the Ethernet Edge Alliance. See www.riverstonenet.com for details. PacketFront is at www.packetfront.com.

WiMAX Vendors at Beijing Demo First Interoperable WiMAX Products

From BBP Wires

BEIJING, CHINA – The second WiMAX Forum Plugfest to test interoperability was held on October 30 to November 6 in China, just before the opening of the WiMAX Forum Plenary Meeting there. The plenary ran concurrently with the Global WiMAX Summit, a China event promoting WiMAX.

During the plenary, WiMAX Forum member companies hold working group sessions. In both events, equipment vendors and applications providers showed products and services running on WiMAX technology.

“WiMAX products are shipping, and we expect to see strong momentum of rapid deployments around the globe. The growing list of 350+ WiMAX Forum members – comprising operators, equipment and chip suppliers and content providers – continue to unveil new products

and solutions. Currently, there are more than 150 pilot and commercial networks around the world,” said Ron Resnick, president of the WiMAX Forum.

The WiMAX Forum is an industry-led, non-profit corporation formed to help promote and certify the compatibility and interoperability of broadband wireless products using the IEEE 802.16 and ETSI HiperMAN wireless MAN specifications.

“The WiMAX Forum is on track to ensure the certification of interoperable, high performance equipment that supports fixed, seamless, portable and mobile applications. By the end of 2005, the first group of WiMAX Forum Certified fixed network products for basic outdoor interoperability will become available,” said Resnick.

The Plugfest was designed to identify

interoperability problems and different interpretations of standards, foster open technical discussions, and help refine interoperability testing for future certification testing. Participants represented a wide range of companies in the telecommunications industry, including Airspan Networks Inc., Alvarion, Aperto Networks, Axxcelera Broadband Wireless, Huawei Technologies, PicoChip, Proxim Wireless, Redline Communications, SEQUANS Communications, Wavesat Wireless Inc., WiNetworks and ZTE Corporation, along with test equipment vendors Invenova Corporation and Sanjole.

Many of the participants demonstrated solid links with other participants in FDD and TDD implementations in the 3.5 Gigahertz (GHz) frequency spectrum, which allowed vendors to conduct

testing at higher layers demonstrating video streaming applications. The average throughput over the air – dependent on modulation schemes – ranged from 2.7 Megabits per second (Mbps) to 7.2 Mbps.

“WiMAX is capable of connecting the next billion broadband users globally, especially in regions where there is

no wired broadband infrastructure available,” said Song Junde, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications (BUPT) professor.

The Plugfest was held at the China Academy of Telecommunication Research of MII (CATR). It is the only telecom research institution of the Chinese government at the national level.

CATR was established in 1994 from such components as the Research Institute of Transmission Technology (RITT), the Planning Institute, the Information Institute, the Communications Measurement Center, and the Industrial Standardization Institute of the former MPT. For more information, visit www.WiMAXForum.org.

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