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10 Gigabit Ethernet Alliance Showcases
World's Largest 10 GbE Interoperability Network At SuperComm

10 Gigabit Ethernet Standard On-Track To Be Ratified Next Week

24 Vendors Unite To Put Communications Community On Notice That 10GbE Is Here

ATLANTA, GA., SuperComm 2002 – June 4, 2002 – The 10 Gigabit Ethernet Alliance (10GEA) today proved that *10 Gigabit Ethernet is Here* by unveiling the world's largest 10 Gigabit Ethernet network. With products from 24 network vendors on display in its booth, the 10 Gigabit Ethernet Alliance is proud to showcase this one-of-a-kind interoperability demonstration in its booth (# 20924) at this week's SuperComm Show in Atlanta, Georgia, June 4-6. This demonstration coincides with the pending ratification of IEEE 802.3ae (10 Gigabit Ethernet) specification, which is expected next week.

"The 10GEA's impressive interoperability demonstration puts the communications community 'On Notice' that 10 Gigabit Ethernet technology is ready to be deployed in multi-vendor high-speed LAN, MAN and WAN networks around the globe. The completion of the standard next week, combined with this week's public proof that multiple 10 GbE components and systems can interoperate in various configurations, mean the industry is primed to benefit from the latest version of IEEE 802.3 Ethernet – 10 Gigabit Ethernet," commented Richard Brand, President and Director of the 10GEA and Director of Content Network Architecture at Nortel Networks.

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About the IEEE 802.3ae Ratification

The 10GEA's interoperability demonstration coincides with the completion of the IEEE 802.3ae specification, which is expected to be ratified on June 13th during the IEEE Standards Board meetings to be held in Piscataway, New Jersey. This is the culmination of over three years of hard work and vendor collaboration.

"Through the dedicated work of hundreds of 802.3ae task force members, Gigabit Ethernet remains on schedule for ratification next week. The task force can be proud that 802.3ae meets the rigorous quality requirements of an IEEE standard, and that it will continue Ethernet's reputation for ease-of-use and integrity. The interoperability efforts of the 10GEA members and vendors provide a foundation for end-user confidence when deploying this high-speed technology in multi-vendor environments," explained Bob Grow, Chair of IEEE 802.3 Working Group, former Chair of the 10GEA, and Principal Architect in Intel Communications Group's CTO Office.

About The 10GEA Interoperability Demonstration

10GEA member companies whose products are on display in the booth include: Agilent Technologies Inc., Blaze Network Products, Cable Design Technologies (CDT), Cisco Systems, Corning Incorporated, Enterasys Networks, Extreme Networks, Force10 Networks Inc., Foundry Networks Inc., Hitachi Cable, Ltd, Infineon Technologies Corporation, Intel Corporation, Ixia, JDS Uniphase, Marvell Semiconductor Inc., Mindspeed, Molex Inc., Nortel Networks, OFS, Optillion, PMC-Sierra, Quake Technologies Inc., Spirent Communications, and Velio Communications Inc.

"The 10GEA is in the unique position to bring together a broad selection of vendors and get them to focus and agree on a common multi-vendor 10GbE network. This effort provides each vendor with valuable interoperability data, and gives the market confidence in the technology," commented Caroline Larson, Chair of the 10GEA

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Marketing Committee and 10 Gigabit Ethernet Product Marketing at Intel Corporation. "Additionally it fulfills the 10GEA's charter of providing resources to establish and demonstrate multi-vendor interoperability of 10 Gigabit Ethernet products. With ratification of the specification on-track for next week, we are pleased to have contributed to the integrity of the specification and the viability of the technology."

This week's 10 Gigabit Ethernet interoperability network is comprised of 20 network devices and pieces of equipment representing a comprehensive range of products from 15 companies including network systems, test equipment, components, fiber optic and cabling. The network is a 200-plus kilometer end-to-end 10 Gigabit Ethernet network. It has 10 network hops and includes four of the seven port types specified in the IEEE 802.3ae (10 GbE) draft: 10GBASE-LR, 10GBASE-ER, 10GBASE-SR and 10GBASE-LW.   Companies whose products comprise the interoperability systems demonstration include: Agilent Technologies Inc, Cable Design Technologies (CDT), Cisco Systems, Corning Inc., Enterasys Networks, Extreme Networks, Force10 Networks Inc., Foundry Networks Inc., Hitachi Cable, Ltd, Intel Corporation, Ixia, Nortel Networks, OFS, PMC-Sierra, and Spirent Communications.

In addition to the systems demonstration, 12 companies are demonstrating a chip-to-chip communication over the IEEE 802.3ae XAUI interface. This demonstration includes five of the seven port types specified in the IEEE 802.3ae draft: 10GBASE-LR, 10GBASE-ER, 10GBASE-SR, 10GBASE-LW and 10GBASE-LX4. Companies participating in the XAUI network demonstration include: Agilent Technologies, Blaze Network Products, Infineon Technologies, Intel, Ixia, JDS Uniphase, Marvell Semiconductor, Mindspeed, Molex, Optillion, PMC-Sierra, and Velio Communications.

In preparation for this interoperability demonstration, the 10GEA hosted a hot stage in April at Key3Media's NetWorld+Interop hot stage facilities in Belmont, California. Over 100 people from all participating companies gathered to assemble the network and

conduct pair and group testing. Representatives from the University of New Hampshire and the National Center for Supercomputer Applications at the San Diego Super Computer Center were also present at the hot stage and are at SuperComm to assist with set up and network logistics.

Those interested in witnessing the 10 Gigabit Ethernet interoperability demonstration and learning more about the technology and the status of the IEEE 802.3ae 10 Gigabit Ethernet standard effort are encouraged to come by the booth or visit the 10GEA's web site at www.10gea.org.

About 10 Gigabit Ethernet

Positioned as a high-speed, unifying technology for networking applications in LANs, MANs, and WANs, 10 Gigabit Ethernet will provide simple, high bandwidth at relatively low cost. In LAN applications, 10 Gigabit Ethernet will enable organizations to scale their packet-based networks from 10 Mbps to 10,000 Mbps, thereby leveraging their investments in Ethernet. In MAN and WAN applications, 10 Gigabit Ethernet will enable service providers and others to create extremely high-speed longer distance Ethernet links at very competitive cost. For specific information about the IEEE P802.3ae visit the IEEE web site at www.ieee802.org.

About the 10 Gigabit Ethernet Alliance

The 10 Gigabit Ethernet Alliance was organized to facilitate and accelerate the introduction of 10 Gigabit Ethernet into the networking market. It was founded by networking industry leaders: 3Com (NASDAQ: COMS), Cisco Systems (NASDAQ: CSCO), Extreme Networks (NASDAQ: EXTR), Intel Corporation (NASDAQ: INTC), Nortel Networks (NYSE: NT), Sun Microsystems (NASDAQ: SUNW), and World Wide Packets. Additionally, the Alliance supports the activities of the IEEE 802.3 Ethernet committee, fosters the development of the 802.3ae (10 Gigabit Ethernet) specification, and promotes interoperability among 10 Gigabit Ethernet products. For more information, visit their web site at www.10gea.org.

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