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## **10 Gigabit Ethernet XAUI Technology Proven in Multi-Vendor Testing at University of New Hampshire**

### ***XAUI Technology Enables High-Density 10 Gigabit Ethernet Products***

**NEWPORT BEACH, Calif.** – July 31, 2001 – The 10 Gigabit Ethernet Alliance XAUI Interoperability Group today announced successful multi-vendor testing of 10 Gigabit Attachment Unit Interface (XAUI) implementations. XAUI is an interface defined in the IEEE 802.3ae 10 Gigabit Ethernet draft for chip-to-chip interconnect. The 802.3ae Task Force voted unanimously, at its recent IEEE meeting, that these tests satisfied the committee's technical feasibility criteria. This was accomplished well in advance of the deadline on the committee's schedule for ratification of a 10 Gigabit Ethernet standard, which is scheduled for ratification during the first half of 2002. The companies that participated in the testing included Blaze Network Products, Mindspeed Technologies™, Texas Instruments, Tyco Electronics and Velio Communications.

To help demonstrate the feasibility of the XAUI technology, and verify the specifications for XAUI, the 10 Gigabit Ethernet Alliance sponsored an interoperability test event at the University of New Hampshire's Interoperability Laboratory. During the test, 10 Gigabit Ethernet XAUI components from four vendors were tested under conditions similar to or worse than those targeted by the 802.3ae draft. The transmission path for XAUI signals also included connectors. This is important for products like plug-able optical transceivers.

During the IEEE 802.3 meeting, held July 10 – 12 in Portland, Oregon, John D'Ambrosia, Chair of the 10 Gigabit Ethernet Alliance XAUI Interoperability Group and Manager, Semiconductor Relations for Tyco Electronics Corporation, and Bob Noseworthy, Manager of the 10Gigabit Ethernet Consortium (10GEC) of the University of New Hampshire's InterOperability Laboratory (UNH-IOL), presented the results and findings of the testing. Specifically, the tests proved that devices independently designed from the 802.3ae draft specifications were able to successfully communicate with each other over PC board trace lengths equal to or greater than the target 20 inches.

Though transparent to end-users of 10 Gigabit Ethernet, XAUI is an important compatibility interface for 10 Gigabit Ethernet component and system implementers. It provides the low pin-count and long PC board trace lengths that system vendors need to drive down port costs. XAUI supports 10 Gb/s using four transmit and four receive lanes; each lane encoding data with an 8B/10B code for differential serial transmission and operating at 3.125 GigaBaud. XAUI reduces 10 Gigabit Ethernet's 72 pin XGMII to 16 pins, enabling higher density and lower cost switch chips and optical transceivers. The lower pin count and longer trace lengths will allow a single chip to support multiple 10 Gigabit Ethernet ports.

The group is encouraged by its initial success. "We are pleased that we were able to demonstrate interoperability between multiple vendors in such a rigorous environment. The successful test was a direct result of some very good work on the part of the participating companies and the UNH-IOL. We believe that the acceptance of the technical feasibility of XAUI will strengthen and help accelerate the development and deployment of 10 Gigabit Ethernet," stated John D'Ambrosia.

### **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 links at very low cost.

### **About University of New Hampshire InterOperability Laboratory (UNH-IOL)**

Founded in 1866, the University of New Hampshire is the Land, Sea and Space Grant public university of the State of New Hampshire, serving a graduate and undergraduate population of over 12,000 students. Recognized among public universities for the quality of the academic experience it provides to its students, UNH is also a rising star among research universities, yet it retains the look and feel of a New England liberal arts college with a faculty dedicated to teaching. Ideally located in the rural town of Durham, UNH is within 20 minutes of the Maine and New Hampshire seacoasts, and one hour of Boston, Portland and the White Mountains. The UNH InterOperability Laboratory, founded in 1988, serves to educate students in computer communications technology and to foster interoperability within the 17 industry groups involved in the Laboratory. More than 200 worldwide companies are members of the UNH InterOperability Laboratory. For more information, visit the UNH InterOperability Laboratory at <http://www.iol.unh.edu>.

### **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 (NASDAQ: INTC), Nortel Networks

(NYSE: NT), Sun Microsystems (NASDAQ: SUNW), and World Wide Packets. Additionally, the Alliance supports the activities of IEEE 802.3 Ethernet committee, fosters the development of the 802.3ae (10 Gigabit Ethernet) standard, and promotes interoperability among 10 Gigabit Ethernet products. For more information, visit their web site at [www.10gea.org](http://www.10gea.org).

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