



EANTC AND 24 VENDORS STAGE LARGEST EVER PUBLIC CARRIER ETHERNET INTEROPERABILITY TEST AT CARRIER ETHERNET WORLD CONGRESS 2007

Geneva, September 24, 2007. Today, EANTC AG (European Advanced Networking Test Center) and 24 leading vendors opened the largest and most diverse public Carrier Ethernet multi-vendor interoperability test ever staged.

The live test with more than 65 devices is geared towards network operators providing Carrier Ethernet services. It is targeted at verifying the current interoperability status of a wide range of implementations as well as provisioning and fault management solutions.

"For the first time in the industry, we have evaluated large interconnected multi-vendor metro networks of PBT, T-MPLS and MPLS, independently verifying the current status of mature and new transport technologies in a joint public test," said Carsten Rossenhoevel, Managing Director at EANTC. "The widespread availability of Carrier Ethernet services across a broad range of virtually any core, metro and access solution is very reassuring. With growing support of Ethernet OAM and the new invention of multi-vendor provisioning, we witnessed rapidly progressing technology."

"We participated in the full two weeks of testing, centered around OAM, end-to-end services, and protection switching," said Dr. Ralf-Peter Braun, Senior Project Manager, T-Systems. "These are basic requirements to minimise our operational costs and to provide the customers of Deutsche Telekom with high-quality end-to-end services. We were pleased to see that many vendors support OAM protocols and could interoperate with each other. It is great that – regardless of the underlying transport technologies like MPLS, T-MPLS and PBT – vendors were able to create end-to-end services including inter domain interoperability offering a high level of resiliency and operational support needed for future proof technology and networks."

"A major objective of the MEF is to ensure that end-to-end Carrier Ethernet services can be provided across global, metro and access service provider networks, using multi-vendor technology solutions," said Kevin Vachon, COO of the Metro Ethernet Forum (MEF). "We recognize the efforts undertaken by more than 20 of our members to improve interoperability at the transport, management, and service layer alike - it is great to see how ubiquitous availability of Carrier Ethernet is becoming reality."

In preparation for the event, more than 70 engineers from participating companies evaluated the interoperability of their solutions in detail in a closed-door, ten-day long intense hot-staging at EANTC's lab in Berlin, Germany. The test has been prepared since April 2007 and covers the latest IEEE, ITU-T and MEF specifications for Carrier Ethernet services.

The vendors participating in the interoperability testing are: Alcatel-Lucent, ANDA Networks, Ceragon Networks, Ciena, Cisco Systems, Extreme Networks, Gridpoint Systems, Hammerhead Systems, Harris Stratex Networks, Huawei Technologies, Ixia, Juniper Networks, MRV Communications, Nokia Siemens Networks, Nortel, RAD Data Communications, Shenick Network Systems, Soapstone Networks, Spirent Communications, Telco Systems, Tellabs, TPACK, World Wide Packets and ZTE.

Real and emulated IP video services and end-to-end SLA measurements were set up to verify that the network can carry real, high quality end user applications with a high degree of confidence. A 20-page white paper with detailed findings is available for download from <http://www.eantc.com/cewc2007>.

About EANTC

The European Advanced Networking Test Center (EANTC) offers vendor-neutral consultancy and test facilities for network equipment manufacturers, service providers and enterprise customers. Primary business areas include interoperability, conformance, and performance testing for IP/MPLS, Carrier Ethernet and Triple Play technologies and applications. For more information contact Carsten Rossenhövel, Managing Director, at +49.30.3180595-0 or via e-mail at cross@eantc.com.

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