



EANTC AND 24 VENDORS PREPARE FOR LARGEST EVER CARRIER ETHERNET INTEROPERABILITY TEST

Multi-vendor network covering MPLS, T-MPLS, and PBT will be publicly demonstrated at Carrier Ethernet World Congress

Berlin, August 29, 2007. This week, EANTC AG (European Advanced Networking Test Center) will team up with 24 leading vendors to set up the largest and most diverse Carrier Ethernet multi-vendor interoperability demonstration ever staged.

More than 50 engineers from participating companies will evaluate Carrier Ethernet interoperability in detail for two weeks at EANTC's lab in Berlin, Germany. The test event is endorsed by the MEF (Metro Ethernet Forum) and covers the latest MEF specifications. It is geared towards service providers and is targeted at verifying the current interoperability status of a wide range of Carrier Ethernet implementations as well as provisioning and fault management solutions.

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.

The resulting network with more than 65 devices will be publicly demonstrated live at Carrier Ethernet World Congress in Geneva, September 25-27, 2007. The demonstration will incorporate the following technologies:

Three multi-vendor aggregation clouds will be set up using PBT, T-MPLS, and MPLS technologies. As an industry-first, large networks of both PBT and T-MPLS will be publicly tested for interoperability.

- Protection mechanisms will be tested among multi-vendor equipment on the node- and link-level as well as end-to-end tunnel protection.
- An MPLS interface will be tested between the MPLS aggregation and core networks with BGP signalling and circuit aggregation.
- Fibre, copper and microwave access solutions will be attached to the backbone.
- Ethernet OAM will be tested across all aggregation and transport technologies. The testing will include the link, service, and user interface components of the technology.
- Ethernet over concatenated TDM lines (EoPDH) and over SDH infrastructures will be configured between multiple vendors.
- Emulated ATM and TDM services will be demonstrated over all three transport technologies.

- Interoperability of Carrier Ethernet end-to-end management solutions will be evaluated. Tunnels and services will be provisioned automatically over multiple vendors' equipment.
- Interoperability between the PBT cloud and the MPLS core will be tested via a service gateway function, interworking PBT directly with MPLS pseudowires.
- An MPLS core network using LDP-based hierarchical VPLS will be tested, interconnecting the three different metro clouds.

Real and emulated IP video services and end-to-end SLA measurements will be set up to verify that the network can carry real, high quality end user applications with a high degree of confidence.

A white paper with detailed findings will be available for download from <http://www.eantc.com/> from September 25.

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. <http://www.eantc.com/>

About the MEF

The MEF is a global industry alliance comprising more than 130 organizations including telecommunications service providers, cable MSOs, network equipment/software manufacturers, semiconductor vendors and testing organizations. The MEF's mission is to accelerate the worldwide adoption of Carrier-class Ethernet networks and services. The MEF develops Carrier Ethernet technical specifications and implementation agreements to promote interoperability and deployment of Carrier Ethernet worldwide.

For more information about the Forum, including a complete listing of all current MEF members, please visit the MEF web site at <http://www.MetroEthernetForum.org>

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