

**About NEON:**

NEON Communications (AMEX: NGI) is a facilities-based wholesale communications provider, supplying high bandwidth fiber optic capacity and comprehensive end-to-end telecom services to communications companies and enterprise customers on an intercity, regional, and metro network in the 12-state Northeast and mid-Atlantic region, with 4,800 route miles and over 230,000 fiber miles from Maine to Virginia. For more information, visit [www.neoninc.com](http://www.neoninc.com).

The NEON Communications logo is available at <http://www.primenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkaid=3426>

**About FactSet:**

FactSet Research Systems, Inc. combines integrated financial information, analytical applications, and client service to enhance the workflow and productivity of the global investment community. The Company, headquartered in Norwalk, Connecticut, was formed in 1978 and now conducts operations along with its affiliates from more than twenty-two locations worldwide, including Boston, New York, Chicago, San Mateo, London, Frankfurt, Paris, Milan, Tokyo, Hong Kong, and Sydney. For more information, visit [www.factset.com](http://www.factset.com).

**About Iometrix:**

Iometrix, founded by Bob Mandeville in 2003, builds upon the activities of European Network Laboratories (ENL), the authoritative source of network benchmarking since 1991. Based in South San Francisco, California, Iometrix has recently launched its IO Certification Test Suite for the Ethernet in the First Mile (EFM) standard (IEEE 802.3ah). Iometrix is inaugurating its IO Certification Program by testing EFM Operations, Administration, and Management (OAM) compliance. Dedicated to advancing industry testing standards, Iometrix is actively working within industry standards bodies to drive forward the adoption of industry sanctioned benchmarks. For more information about Iometrix and IO Certification(tm), visit [www.iometrix.com](http://www.iometrix.com).

**About the Metro Ethernet Forum:**

The Metro Ethernet Forum (MEF) is a global industry alliance comprising approximately 70 organizations including telecommunications service providers, 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 the 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, visit [www.MetroEthernetForum.org](http://www.MetroEthernetForum.org).

**CONTACT: NEON Communications**

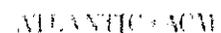
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# NEOPOLITAN

How can today's best enterprises solve their network equation? [tell me about it](#)

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## NeoMatrix

Powerfully Interconnected Metro Core Networks Nationally and Internationally.

Neo Matrix (TM) gives enterprises high-speed network access by making your Internet presence a primary point on the WAN. NeoMatrix provides local connections between data centers, while reducing resources and costs associated with designing and maintaining multiple points of presence. In short, Connection Matrix lets your presence connect to, and become, many points on the network.

- Reduced Management Overhead
- Turnkey Deployment
- Standard Ethernet Interface (10/100/1000 Mbps)
- Flexible Bandwidth
- Low Latency
- Burstable Bandwidth Services (Available)
- Wireless Option May Be Available
- Very innovative Wide Area solutions
- Rapid inter Metro deployment
- Available at many key data centers
- Integrated Network Monitoring

### Embrace Freedom

With NeoMatrix you can now get the network you need where you need it. You have both the Freedom to chose where you concentrate your collocated equipment but the ability to have a network presents where you need one and not be held hostage to realities such as no space or power being available. NeoMatrix offers a flexible solution following the Neopolitan theme for helping your business work and working to drive your companies success.

### Plug and Play Wide Area Networking

Neopolitan has established Ethernet switching fabrics in many Top Tier data centers throughout the United States and internationally. This list of sites is constantly growing. These sites are all interconnected via GigE / multi-Gig links. The innovative result for our customers is that you can simply plug into one of the sites using an Ethernet cable and instantly have a presence at any one or any combination of the other sites. This truly takes Plug-n-Play to a new level.

### NeoMatrix Key support Benefits

- Redundant service packages available
- 24/7 network monitoring and fault detection with automated alerts
- 24/7 live technical support and NOC operations

### Other Technical Details

<b>Network Coverage</b>	cities with service throughout the US and parts of the UK
<b>Customer Connections</b>	GigE, FastE – SONET and TDM as needed (DS3, T1, PRI)

- [Overview](#)
- [NeoNET™](#)
- [NeoMAN™](#)
- [NeoMatrix™](#)
- [NeoIX™ \(Peering\)](#)
- [NeoPhone™](#)
- [NeoPBX™](#)
- [Colocation](#)
- [NeoSolutions™](#)
- [Other Internet Services](#)
- [GEOSPACE™](#)

<b>Scalability</b>	1 meg to 1 Gig
<b>Burst Capable</b>	2x commitment burst on each port.
<b>Customer View</b>	can view near real time utilization via customer portal
<b>SLAs</b>	measured industry standard supported
<b>Typical Latency</b>	(sub < 50 ms US) and sub < 75 ms US to UK)
<b>Committed Bandwidth Availability</b>	Zero Over Subscription
<b>Required Customer Equipment</b>	Minimum Ethernet Switch, No customer router needed
<b>Data Schemes/Protocols</b>	Supported Multicast distribution, IP, RIP, OSPF, BGP, IS-IS, MPLS, VPLS, 802.3 Ethernet, 802.1Q Jumbo Frames.

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## **SAVVIS Launches SAVVIS Exchange Express To Provide Lowest Latency Connectivity to Major Market Data Feeds**

The American Stock Exchange new Depth of Book (ADOBSM) Data Feed Is the First to Benefit from SAVVIS Solution

**ST. LOUIS – August 20, 2007** – SAVVIS, Inc. (NASDAQ:SVVS), a global leader in IT infrastructure services for financial markets and enterprise applications, today announced the availability of SAVVIS Exchange Express, a new financial network solution enabling clients to directly connect to leading exchanges to receive market data feeds and execute trades. This new service is tailored to the unique needs of the exchange applications and integrates low latency Ethernet access and SAVVIS' global high-speed private financial network.

SAVVIS Exchange Express provides Ethernet access to direct feeds from the American Stock Exchange (Amex®) and SFTI (Secure Financial Transaction Infrastructure). The service provides lowest latency network access and a key competitive advantage to algorithmic trading applications when compared with traditional routed network topologies.

Deploying Ethernet from the customer location directly to SAVVIS' data centers removes extraneous hardware that typically creates additional delay. SAVVIS also manages the hardware at the customer premise providing 24x7 monitoring and notification. SAVVIS will be offering additional market data feeds over SAVVIS Exchange Express in the near future.

SAVVIS also announced that the Amex's new Depth of Book (ADOB<sup>SM</sup>) data feed is the first to take advantage of SAVVIS Exchange Express. ADOB is a real time compilation of all visible equity and ETF (exchange-traded fund) limit orders resident in the Amex (AEMI<sup>SM</sup>) system central limit order book. Based on its proximity in SAVVIS' New York data center, SAVVIS offers the lowest latency possible for the ADOB data feed.

"Our successful integration with SAVVIS' new Exchange Express Services supports the Amex's strategy to offer our depth of book through a low latency and reliable distribution model, while leveraging a broad global distribution network through a trusted IT infrastructure partner," said Oscar N. Onyema, SVP & Chief Administrative Officer, Amex.

In addition, SAVVIS' highly secure and resilient network will help Amex meet strict compliance and reliability requirements and ensure fast, robust, scalable and safe delivery of its proprietary services.

"Direct access to market data feeds with the lowest latency – whether it is achieved by access method, proximity, or a combination of both – continues to be a high priority for trading firms," said Tom Price, Senior Analyst at the Tower Group. "Electronic trading has evolved to the point where "low" latency clearly translates to lower risk for the investor and higher competitive advantage for the firms they trade with."

In addition to the low latency Ethernet access included in SAVVIS Exchange Express, SAVVIS provides secure, high-availability, direct connectivity to more than 125 real-time data feeds from over 20 of the world's top exchanges, Electronic Communications Networks (ECNs), Alternative Trading Systems (ATS), and liquidity pools, such as the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), NASDAQ, the London Stock Exchange, and many more. To see a full list of the exchanges and feeds SAVVIS delivers, visit [www.savvis.net/corp/savvis/MarketDataFeeds](http://www.savvis.net/corp/savvis/MarketDataFeeds)

"We believe SAVVIS Exchange Express establishes a new benchmark for low latency access to direct market data feeds and we are pleased that Amex selected our service to deliver its new depth of book feed," said Varghese Thomas, Vice President and General Manager of Financial Markets for SAVVIS. "Exchange Express represents another step forward in SAVVIS' commitment to provide the most comprehensive portfolio of low latency connectivity solutions to the most important trading venues in the world."

### **About SAVVIS**

SAVVIS, Inc. (NASDAQ: SVVS) is a global leader in IT infrastructure services for business



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## Business & Industry

### Etherloop Networks

Etherloop Networks (Charleston & Columbia) FlexNet Access Service (a Metro-Ethernet Access)

Customers in the Charleston and Columbia metropolitan areas now have a new option for broadband network connectivity - FlexNet Access, Our Metropolitan Ethernet service offering provides businesses and carriers access to a flexible, highly scalable, broadband network.

Until now, businesses used Ethernet extensively in local area networks but utilized Low-speed solutions for wide area network connectivity. Our new Ethernet solution allows seamless Ethernet-to-Ethernet connections via our MPLS based network.

Our FlexNet Access (Metro-Ethernet) provides transport bandwidth from 3 Mbps up to full duplex gigabit ethernet (10 Gbps) speeds. Access to this new, exclusive broadband network is available using Scana Communications' extensive metropolitan fiber network or Local Exchange Carrier (LEC) provided copper connections.

#### Key Features & Benefits of FlexNet Access:

- Wide variety of service offerings
- Ethernet Private Line
- Ethernet WAN
- Ethernet Virtual Private Line
- Ethernet Access (Transport for Internet Access)

#### Scalable bandwidth and Access Methods:

- Utilizes SCANA Communications fiber (20 Mbs -1 Gigabit Connections)
- Ethernet over LEC copper circuits (3-9 Mbs)
- Service Inter-working with Frame relay, XDSL

#### Latest Technology:

applications. With an IT services platform spanning North America, Europe, and Asia, SAVVIS leads the industry in delivering secure, reliable, and scalable hosting, network, and application services. These solutions enable customers to focus on their core business while SAVVIS ensures the quality of their IT systems and operations. SAVVIS' strategic approach combines virtualization technology, a global network and 23 data centers, and automated management and provisioning systems. For more information about SAVVIS, visit [www.savvis.net](http://www.savvis.net).

**Forward-Looking Statements**

This document contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Actual results may differ materially from SAVVIS' expectations. Certain factors that could affect actual results are set forth as risk factors in SAVVIS' SEC reports and filings, including its annual report on Form 10-K and all subsequent filings. SAVVIS assumes no obligation to update or supplement forward-looking statements.

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- High Speed Optical Ethernet Services
- MPLS
- Multiple services over a single connection
- Internet Access
- Voice over IP
- Managed Router Service
- Managed Firewalls
- MPLS VPNs

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**Internet Services**

- Business Parks
- Local Business Solutions
- Government and Municipalities
- Customized Solutions
- Wholesale Carrier Services
- Fiber Technology

**Internet Access**

- ▶ ATM DS3
- ▶ Business DSL
- ▶ etherMAN
- ▶ Ethernet
- ▶ Frame Relay
- ▶ ISDN
- ▶ LAN / WAN
- ▶ Online backup
- ▶ T-1
- ▶ Web Hosting
- Data Services

**InfinitAccess**

**Bundle and Save**

**Customer Support**

- Support Center Home
- Contact Us
- FAQs
- Set up Features

**SureWest Services**

- Home
- Residential
  - ▶ Internet Services
  - ▶ Telephone Services
  - ▶ Wireless
  - ▶ Yellow Pages
- Business
  - Internet Services
  - ▶ Telephone Services
  - ▶ Wireless
  - ▶ Yellow Pages

**10/100 MB Ethernet Over Fiber**

Printer Friendly

SureWest Internet offers flexible and affordable solutions for companies of any size, including those tackling growth issues. For businesses with more than one location in a metropolitan area, Ethernet services provide a simple, cost-effective solution to private network interconnectivity.

You can achieve point-to-point or any-to-any connectivity - or a mixture of both with an Ethernet connection. Ethernet services offer an increasingly popular solution, eliminating the need for ongoing configuration, management and additional equipment. This service allows you to enjoy the benefits of broadband LAN interconnectivity without the added expense of telecom provisioning.

Ethernet delivers superior dedicated high-capacity bandwidth and service for your private network at a reduced cost. You also have the option of implementing additional features, including a simple, point-to-point, non-switched configuration.

Ethernet services make private network interconnectivity simple. Enjoy backbone-class bandwidths across your multi-facility network - without the cost and responsibility of purchasing, configuring and managing additional equipment.

**Standard Features**

- Optimum backbone-class performance with a 10 or 100 MB over fiber connection
- No more WAN transport performance constraints
- Scalable bandwidth to support your growing business
- Complete management of the local-loop circuit to your business
- Managed circuit services available
- 24 x 7 customer notification of downtime in the event of a network outage
- 24 x 7 monitoring of your circuit from our network operations center
- Ongoing traffic analysis
- Proactive Internet access and security solution recommendations, appropriate for your business
- Value-added options including: end router, firewall, VPN and IP Sec
- Multiple IP addresses as justified
- Primary and Secondary Domain Name Service (DNS)
- News Reader Service (NNRP)
- Live 24 x 7 technical support

- ▶ Terms of Service for Business Internet Services
- ▶ Acceptable Use Policy

**For pricing information or to speak with a representative please call 916.640.2992.**



# US SIGNAL

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Chad Hohendorf, US Signal  
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## **US Signal Announces Metro Market Expansion in Chicago, Illinois**

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., June 26, 2007 - US Signal, a leading provider of data bandwidth capacity in the Midwest today announced its plans to add five additional points of presence in metro Chicago, Illinois during the month of August of this year.

US Signal's expansion of its network introduces service access at the following locations:

- Elk Grove Village, Illinois – EGVGILEG
- Oak Brook, Illinois – OKBRILOA
- Chicago (Newcastle), Illinois – CHCGILNE
- Hoffman Estates, Illinois – HFESILWL
- Schaumburg, Illinois – SCBGILCO

"US Signal's Chicago expansion is driven by customers who are seeking alternative providers in the downtown business district as well as its surrounding cities," said Barry Raterink, president. "The network expansion will provide a very cost effective way for existing and new Chicago based customers to seamlessly connect to US Signal's fiber network in the Midwest."

The Chicago expansion will add over 115 metro route miles to the US Signal network and create a total of 260 metro route miles of fiber on the Chicago metro ring. Along with recently added Northbrook, Illinois (NBRKILNT) and La Grange, Illinois (LGRGILLG), the five new access points have more than doubled US Signal's network density in the Chicago metro market in the past year.

The US Signal network, the largest in the Midwest, includes more than 700 route miles of fiber optic metro rings in 14 markets and over 3,500 route miles of long haul fiber connecting more than 100 on-off ramps, comprised of major carrier hotel locations and incumbent telephone company central offices.

### **About US Signal**

US Signal ([www.ussignalcom.com](http://www.ussignalcom.com)) is a full-service fiber optic solutions provider, offering a wide range of telecommunications solutions to carrier, wholesale and enterprise customers. The Company has built and developed one of the most comprehensive fiber optic networks in the Midwest. As a full-service solutions provider, US Signal offers unlimited high-speed capacity, dark fiber and collocation services, and also works with customers to design and build new network construction projects.

###

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616-988-7000  
[www.ussignalcom.com](http://www.ussignalcom.com)

**Verosity Further Extends Its Ethernet Offerings Throughout Europe**

*Provides International Connectivity to Major Metropolitan European Cities*

**Bedford, MA – February 28, 2007** - Verosity Technology Partners, an industry leader and innovator in building fiber diverse mission critical optical networks for enterprise customers, today announces it has further extended its Ethernet offerings throughout Europe. Verosity's Ethernet offerings allow customers to seamlessly optically connect to Verosity's national backbone for global WAN connectivity.

Verosity offers enterprise customers the ability to diversely protect their transatlantic data communications via Boston and New York City. Multiple geo-diversely routed cable systems are utilized to provide unmatched reliability, diversity and low latency. Major metropolitan cities Verosity services today are: Dublin, London, Luxembourg, Munich, Oslo, and Paris

"We are acutely listening to our customers needs for a single source vendor for high availability - zero downtime networks across the globe, and responding, comments Matthew Roth, Chief Network Architect, Verosity Technology Partners. With our knowledge of Transatlantic cable systems and European carrier network footprints and partnerships, our customers are assured their data is securely transported."

**About Verosity Technology Partners**

Verosity Technology Partners is a privately held facilities-based carrier delivering fiber diverse mission critical optical networks for enterprise-class customers. The company's owned and operated national network backbone, provides high availability optical connectivity for data center, storage applications, business continuity and mission critical data delivery. With its suite of optical connectivity offerings (SONET, DWDM, Ethernet, Frame, Private Lines and Internet access), Verosity delivers end-to-end network connectivity worldwide. Verosity is the provider of choice for businesses that require absolutely no interruption in their data communications. Founded in 1999, Verosity is headquartered in Bedford, MA.

For more information on Verosity, visit <http://www.verosity.com>.

#####



a demonstrated difference

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### News From Virtela

## NEW ACCELERATED WAN SERVICE FROM VIRTELA IMPROVES GLOBAL NETWORK PERFORMANCE AND MAXIMIZES RESOURCES

*Managed WAN Optimization Gives Enterprises the Ease and Flexibility to Move Operations and Applications Anywhere Without Incurring Performance Penalties*

#### Key Enterprise Benefits:

- ▶ Improve application performance up to 30-fold
- ▶ Lower bandwidth costs and avoid costly WAN upgrades
- ▶ Centralize applications and operations while maximizing IT infrastructure

**DENVER, June 28, 2007** - Virtela, the secure network solutions company, today announced its Accelerated WAN Service, the industry's first consultative approach toward managed WAN acceleration and optimization services capable of spanning multi-carrier environments on a global scale. Virtela's Accelerated WAN Service is a comprehensive managed suite of services that overcomes distance limitations by improving application and protocol performance over the WAN by a factor of two to three times on average, or as much as a factor of 30 times, depending on the application.

[Editor's note: Virtela provides a webinar available on demand entitled: "WAN Optimization and Acceleration: Cool Technology... But It's Not as Easy as You Think!" at [www.virtela.net/resourcecenter\\_webcasts.html](http://www.virtela.net/resourcecenter_webcasts.html).]

As a result, employees in remote offices can now experience the same application performance as their colleagues at headquarters. In addition, Virtela's Accelerated WAN Service enables enterprises and multinationals to maximize their current bandwidth costs (or avoid new costs) and move their operations and applications anywhere in the world without incurring the potential performance penalties typically associated with 'chatty' applications and large files traversing long distances across the WAN.

"High latency can slow applications to a crawl, and sending large files over the WAN can take far too long," said Bill Dodds, Virtela's vice president of sales and marketing. "Problems like these can have a significant impact on applications' usability and on overall productivity. Our Accelerated WAN Service greatly improves the user experience, making it seem as if remote applications are loading from the local site and slashing file transfer time."

Companies implementing Virtela's Accelerated WAN Service can maximize the use of their existing resources, avoid adding infrastructure, improve bandwidth performance, and maximize productivity in a global environment. Large national and multinational companies, or companies that outsource work such as software and product design overseas, can use the service to improve WAN performance in a variety of situations. For example, Virtela's new service reduces the impact of latency on global and remote locations, where users may complain of slow application performance due to latencies of 200ms or more. The Accelerated WAN Service also reduces transmission times for organizations with users who regularly send large files over the network to remote sites—files such as email attachments, file transfers, and CAD diagrams that are 5MB or higher. Lower latency and faster file transfers translate into improved employee productivity and also free up the WAN for other tasks. With the same high level of performance throughout the WAN, companies have the flexibility to move their operations and applications anywhere.

"WAN optimization is about improving the performance of business applications over WAN connections. Most networks carry a variety of types of traffic, of differing characteristics and importance. Many organizations are striving to manage this traffic to optimize the response times of critical applications and reduce costs, given that bandwidth continues to represent a significant proportion of operating expenditure of wide-area data networks," noted the report "Magic Quadrant for WAN Optimization Controllers, 2006" from Gartner, Inc. The report also

notes that WAN optimization can make more efficient and effective use of wide-area connections, thus maximizing the investment in WAN bandwidth and offering greater scalability and fault tolerance.

#### **The Many Benefits of Improved WAN Service**

Customers can use Virtela's Accelerated WAN Service not only to improve WAN service on an existing network but also to avoid WAN bandwidth upgrades they would otherwise need to deploy a new application, to increase the number of users, or simply to avoid running out of bandwidth. The benefits of an optimized WAN are many:

- ▶ Companies can more quickly and efficiently back up data across the WAN.
- ▶ The impact of 'chatty' protocols that consume a great deal of bandwidth, such as CIFS, can now be minimized.
- ▶ Enterprises can continue server consolidation into data centers without the fear of adversely affecting application performance for remote users.
- ▶ Improved WAN performance can eliminate bottlenecks caused by servers.

#### **Service Flexibility for Accelerated WAN Performance**

Virtela offers a number of options to organizations interested in implementing its Accelerated WAN Service. Customers can purchase a WAN acceleration device by itself, or Virtela can bundle the device with existing access services such as last-mile connectivity. Customers can also choose to use Virtela Collocation Services to place a device in a geographic location which will allow a customer with multiple sites to benefit from a single WAN acceleration device. Virtela supports a variety of optimization technologies from the industry's leading suppliers. This service is available in 190 countries, and includes procurement, export, deployment, break/fix and management.

#### **About Virtela**

Virtela Communications Inc. delivers award-winning network and security solutions to many of the world's largest and fastest-growing multinational companies. Currently serving customers across six continents, Virtela's network reach spans more than 190 countries. Virtela's unique Global Service Fabric offers the foundation for delivering all critical business applications via the company's acclaimed service methodology, with a services suite that includes IP-based Virtual Private Networks (VPNs), security services, Voice over IP, Video over IP, and network consulting services.

Virtela is headquartered in Denver, Colorado, with a second Network Operations Center in Mumbai, India. Virtela is a member of Juniper Networks' (Nasdaq: JNPR) Managed Network Solutions Preferred Alliance Program. For more information, please call +1 (720) 475-4000 or visit [www.virtela.net](http://www.virtela.net).

###

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## News Release

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**Windstream ConnectStream enables businesses to 'connect anything to everything'**  
**Expanded suite of business customer products includes new Ethernet offering**  
 Release date: Oct 9, 2006

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. – Windstream Communications announced today a newly branded ConnectStream suite of business products that enables customers to "connect anything to everything."

ConnectStream voice and data products provide geographically dispersed large and small businesses increased connectivity, service and larger bandwidth choices while simplifying their networks by virtually meshing multiple local area networks together over a private IP/MPLS network.

"In this global climate, our business customers need the flexibility to connect wherever they are with whatever systems they have," said Don Perkins, Windstream vice president of product marketing. "With Windstream's highly reliable network, customers can choose from a variety of broadband, voice, web hosting and managed services that provide cost-effective solutions to meet any business needs."

Under the new ConnectStream umbrella, Windstream is launching Virtual LAN Service (VLS), which virtually connects businesses with MPLS-powered Ethernet connectivity for high-speed data transmissions and is available over existing fiber or copper connections. VLS brings advanced networking solutions to rural areas – where Windstream is focused – enabling businesses even in remote locations to centralize their data applications.

The ConnectStream VLS product is ideal for converging video, voice and data applications and can be applied to a variety of industries, including healthcare, banking, education and government. Perkins said Habersham Bank in North Georgia, for example, is using a Windstream Ethernet network to connect its branches to a centralized server for all check clearing and local data applications.

"The data services market is undergoing an accelerating transition from legacy Frame Relay, ATM, and TDM private line services toward Layer 2 Ethernet and Layer 3 VPN services," said Stari Hubbard, senior analyst for Heavy Reading, the market research arm of telecommunications news organization Light Reading. "Enterprises increasingly are embracing next-generation Ethernet services like the new one offered by Windstream because they provide greater bandwidth and are more flexible, scalable, and cost-effective than traditional services."

Initially, Windstream will offer its ConnectStream VLS product in North Georgia and plans to expand to other markets in the near future.

Windstream will feature its ConnectStream products at the COMPEL PLUS trade show Oct. 8-11 in Orlando, Fla. For more information on Windstream, visit [www.windstream.com](http://www.windstream.com).

## About Windstream

Windstream Corporation (NYSE: WIN) provides voice, broadband and entertainment services to customers in 16 states. The company has approximately 3.3 million access lines and about \$3.2 billion in annual revenues. For more information, visit [www.windstream.com](http://www.windstream.com).

-end-

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In the News  
 Sep 14, 2007  
 Windstream President and  
 Chief Executive Officer Jeff  
 Gardner to speak at Goldman  
 Sachs conference

# **EXHIBIT 2**

# CETERUS NETWORKS

## The Universal Transport System™ for Metro Ethernet

### SMART TRANSPORT

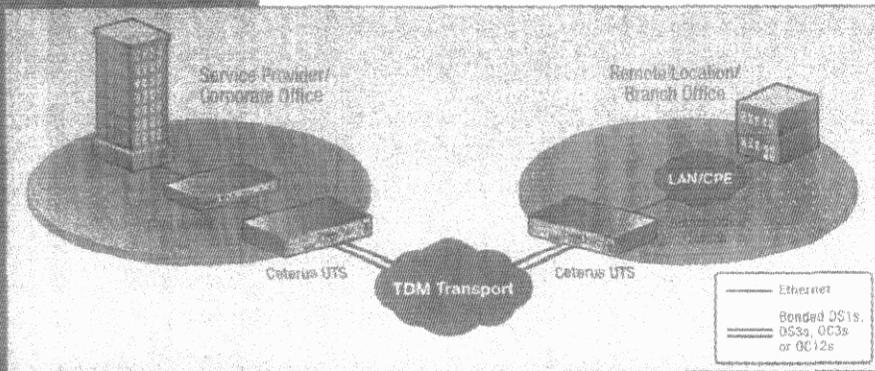
The Ceterus Universal Transport System (UTS) offers service providers and enterprises a fresh approach to the problem of Metro Ethernet transport. Ceterus brings the simplicity, reliability, and circuit-based QoS capabilities of the legacy TDM network into the Ethernet world.

The Universal Transport System from Ceterus Networks delivers Ethernet service to any location, from any location, at any speed, over copper or fiber—today.

By decoupling Ethernet client traffic from underlying transport formats, operators can take advantage of the existing telecom infrastructure to carry Ethernet. Decoupling also enables Ceterus Networks' smart transport, because it removes the constraint of offering Ethernet services in standard TDM increments—T1 (1.5 Mbps), T3 (45 Mbps), or SONET rates. The Ceterus UTS bonds multiple T1s, T3s, OC3s or OC12s to create a seamless, robust "virtual pipe" of any size—whatever is required for the service, from 1.5 Mbps all the way to 2.5 Gbps. The UTS can carry any Ethernet service an enterprise requires, from a 1 Mbps Ethernet service all the way to multiple Gigabit Ethernet services at line rate.

### DEDICATED LAYER ONE SOLUTION

Most Ethernet is transported across the WAN by routers with T1, T3 or OC3/OC12 output port cards. But routers are optimized for Layer 2 & 3 functions, not as transport devices. This results in expensive, purely routed architectures that constrain the user to data rates other than what they really need. Current bonding methods such as MLPPP or IMA, offer an incomplete solution, as they add additional expense and inefficiency. The best approach is to let routers do routing, and leave the transport to dedicated transport platforms. This is the Ceterus Networks approach.



The Ceterus UTS enables Ethernet service transport over any existing infrastructure. Connect distributed enterprise locations with easily-adjusted bandwidth by bonding TDM circuits.

### NEW ARCHITECTURE ALTERNATIVES

The UTS creates a "virtual router port" anywhere the service provider or IT manager wants it. Rather than deploy a router to every site that needs an Ethernet connection, with the UTS one can extend ports from a core router out to each site. To the user it appears as if the port from the core router is at their location, and they plug in to a standard cost-effective Ethernet interface. This allows the best capital efficiency by enabling higher

utilization of expensive core or main office devices, while limiting expense at remote locations—not just through savings on equipment, but on management as well.

## ADD VALUE TO ETHERNET

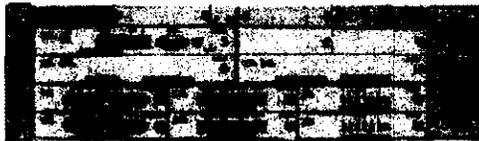
The UTS does away with Ethernet as a "best-effort only" service. It offers bandwidth and QoS guarantees by giving the user options to rate-shape subscriber interface rates, in 1 Mbps increments, on a per-port basis. Administrators can set three levels of priority for client traffic, akin to Frame Relay services, including "guaranteed." This allows service providers or IT managers to create feature-rich services for client traffic, with or without oversubscription.

## EASIER NETWORK MANAGEMENT

The UTS is transparent to Layer 2 and Layer 3—meaning that for the first time, operators can choose how to administer their Ethernet Networks as they traverse the WAN. Many IT managers prefer not to have a separate subnet for each site using a corporate Transparent LAN Service. The Ceterus UTS allows this type of "flat" network. Or users can create subnets as desired, for data to be transported over UTS enabled links. Either way, there are no complicated routing protocols to manage. As a transparent platform, the UTS supports full VLAN and Class of Service, as well as any other Ethernet service required by the application. The UTS product family will "future proof" your access network.

## PRODUCTS

There is a Ceterus Networks UTS platform for every application, from carrier-class, fully redundant, multi-service applications to small business integrated voice and Ethernet access services.



### UTS1100

With up to eight Gigabit Ethernet ports, or up to sixteen 10/100 Ethernet ports, the Ceterus UTS1100 is the ideal multi-tenant Ethernet Access platform. It transports client data over up to twelve bonded DS3s, or four bonded OC3s or OC12s—from 45 Mbps all the way to 2.5 Gbps. Modular design, optional redundancy, management via TL1, SNMP or an HTTP GUI, and AC or DC power, this platform enables any environment to take advantage of the promise of Metro Ethernet.



### UTS1000

A smaller version of the UTS1100, the UTS1000 uses same interface modules. Two Gigabit or four 10/100 Ethernet ports, and up to six DS3s, or two OC3/OC12s make the UTS1000 ideal for single-location Ethernet applications.



### UTS900

The UTS900 is the first integrated voice and Ethernet platform in the UTS product family. Designed for small and medium-sized businesses, it allows client 10/100 Ethernet as well as TDM voice to be carried over bonded T1 facilities. Cost-effective services can be created anywhere with the UTS900.

**CETERUS**  
NETWORKS

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# **EXHIBIT 3**

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INSPECTION**

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Redacted for Public Inspection

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FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT - 9 2007

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

October 9, 2007

**Ex Parte**  
**VIA HAND DELIVERY**  
Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

ORIGINAL

Re: *Petitions of AT&T Inc., BellSouth Corporation, the Embarq Local Operating Companies, and Qwest Under 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) for Forbearance from Title II and Computer Inquiry Rules with Respect to Broadband Services, WC Docket Nos. 06-125 & 06-147; Petition of the Verizon Telephone Companies for Forbearance Under 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) from Title II and Computer Inquiry Rules with Respect to Their Broadband Services, WC Docket No. 04-440*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Verizon submits this letter in response to recent filings by Time Warner Telecom,<sup>1</sup> BT Americas,<sup>2</sup> and other commenters in these proceedings and to demonstrate further that there is extensive competition nationwide to provide to enterprise customers the stand-alone broadband transmission services that are the subject of the pending petitions for forbearance in WC Docket Nos. 06-125 and 06-147. These are the same services for which Verizon received flexibility to provide customized, broadband offerings to meet the particularized needs of its customers in March 2006, when its petition in WC Docket No. 04-440 was granted by operation of law. In

<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., Letter from Thomas Jones, Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket Nos. 06-125 *et al.* Attach. 1 at 16-20 (filed Sept. 20, 2007).

<sup>2</sup> See Letter from Aryeh Friedman, BT Americas Inc., to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket Nos. 06-125 *et al.* (filed Oct. 5, 2007).

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particular, Verizon focuses here on the Ethernet services that have been the particular focus of Time Warner Telecom's filings in these proceedings.

A recent analyst report, which Time Warner Telecom has described as "provid[ing] in-depth, accurate, defensible statistics and analysis,"<sup>3</sup> confirms the extensive competition, predominantly from facilities-based providers, to provide Ethernet services to enterprise customers. For example, the report shows that AT&T, which held the top position as of mid-year 2007 with less than a 20 percent share of Ethernet ports nationwide, saw its share drop by almost 3 percentage points in just six months, despite adding BellSouth, and by more than 7 percentage points in the past year.<sup>4</sup> Qwest similarly saw its share of Ethernet ports nationwide fall during that same six-month period, losing 1.5 percentage points.<sup>5</sup> The third and fourth place providers — Time Warner Telecom and Cox Business — on the other hand are making rapid and significant increases in their share of Ethernet ports nationwide. Time Warner Telecom, for example, gained three percentage points of market share in the past year. And Cox Business, which is the "undisputed cable leader in Ethernet port sales" and "deliver[s] Ethernet services" over its own "hybrid fiber coax" network,<sup>6</sup> saw its share of Ethernet ports grow by at least four percentage points in the past six-months.<sup>7</sup> Indeed, over the past year, both Time Warner Telecom and Cox Business have grown *faster* than Verizon, which at less than 16 percent, has the second largest share of Ethernet ports nationwide.<sup>8</sup>

Moreover, in the past year, competition for Ethernet services has continued to grow and become ever more diverse. Over that period, at least *fifteen* additional providers of Ethernet ports to enterprise customers — including companies such as Comcast Business, FiberTower, and NTELOS — have had sufficient marketplace success to be included in the analyst report. In fact, the number of companies in the "Other" category now exceeds *forty* providers and "Other" is the largest category in the report, with a 20.5 percent share — nearly double the share for the

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<sup>3</sup> Time Warner Telecom Grows Ethernet Market Share, [http://www.twtelecom.com/Documents/Announcements/News/2007/VSG\\_TWTC\\_Mid\\_year07Ethernet.pdf](http://www.twtelecom.com/Documents/Announcements/News/2007/VSG_TWTC_Mid_year07Ethernet.pdf) ("*TWT Grows Ethernet Market Share*").

<sup>4</sup> Compare Vertical Systems Group, *Mid-Year 2007 Market Share Results for U.S. Business Ethernet Services*, <http://www.verticalsystems.com/prarticles/stat-flash-0807-ethernetshare.html> (reporting that AT&T and BellSouth, at year-end 2006, had 13.6 percent and 8.5 percent of nationwide Ethernet port shares, but that the combined company had only 19.5 percent of those ports by mid-year 2007 — a drop of 2.6 percentage points) ("*Vertical Systems Report Mid-Year 2007*") with Vertical Systems Group, *Mid-2006 Market Share Results for U.S. Business Ethernet Services*, <http://www.verticalsystems.com/prarticles/stat-flash-0906-mid2006-ethshare.html> (reporting that AT&T and BellSouth collectively had 26.7 percent of nationwide Ethernet points in mid-year 2006) ("*Vertical Systems Report Mid-Year 2006*").

<sup>5</sup> Compare *id.* with Vertical Systems Group, *Year-End 2006 Market Share Results for U.S. Business Ethernet Services*, <http://www.verticalsystems.com/prarticles/stat-flash-ye2006-ethernetshare.html> ("*Vertical Systems Report Year-End 2006*").

<sup>6</sup> Carol Wilson, "Carrier Ethernet Cable Style," *Telephony's Guide to carrierethernet* at 14-18 (Sept. 2007); Cox Business Services, *Cox Business Marks Industry Milestone as First MSO To Reach Top Tier of U.S. Business Ethernet Providers*, <http://www.coxbusiness.com/pressroom/pressreleases/2007-0828.html>.

<sup>7</sup> Compare *Vertical Systems Report Mid-Year 2007* (reporting that Cox Business has 8.9 percent of Ethernet ports nationwide) with *Vertical Systems Report Year-End 2006* (reporting that Cox Business had less than 5 percent of Ethernet ports nationwide).

<sup>8</sup> Compare *Vertical Systems Report Mid-Year 2007* with *Vertical Systems Report Mid-Year 2006*

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“Other” category 12 months earlier.<sup>9</sup> Attached to this letter as Exhibit 1 is a sampling of these providers’ Ethernet offerings. In addition, Cablevision, which was not included in the mid-2007 list of “Other” companies, announced in May 2007 the introduction of “the first-ever carrier-class voice service delivered over Metro Ethernet by a cable MSO,” delivered over Cablevision’s fiber network.<sup>10</sup>

Verizon’s experience over the past 18 months confirms that the market for the high-end, broadband services at issue in the pending petitions works, and that outdated common carriage regulation is unnecessary to protect the sophisticated customers who purchase such services. In particular, Verizon’s provision of Ethernet services through contract arrangements with enterprise customers and other carriers provides concrete experience that the Commission must consider when it reviews the pending petitions and that should lead it to extend to all competing providers the same relief Verizon received in March 2006, so that they too will have the flexibility to provide customized and innovative broadband offerings to meet the particularized needs of their customers.<sup>11</sup> In particular, since March 2006, Verizon currently has entered wholesale agreements for Ethernet services with nearly 20 carrier customers — including carriers of all sizes, large and small<sup>12</sup> — which is in addition to the agreements it has entered into with more than 75 end-user customers. Those agreements confirm that neither common carrier nor *Computer Inquiry* regulation is necessary to protect consumers, and that forbearance is plainly in the public interest because the market for these services works.

Finally, as with other enterprise broadband services, in addition to using their own facilities and those of third parties like Verizon, competitors can and do provision Ethernet service using TDM-based special access as a wholesale input to their own enterprise broadband services.<sup>13</sup> Indeed, the “notion that carrier Ethernet services were limited to fiber has been disposed of thanks to copper bonding technologies.”<sup>14</sup> Ceterus Networks, for example, offers a “Universal Transport System” that enables Ethernet service — in 1 Megabit increments and up to multiple Gigabit rates — over existing TDM circuits.<sup>15</sup> Although Time Warner Telecom and

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<sup>9</sup> Compare *Vertical Systems Report Mid-Year 2007 with Vertical Systems Report Mid-Year 2006*.

<sup>10</sup> See Optimum Lightpath, *Optimum Lightpath Launches Voice Over Metro Ethernet Service*, <http://www.optimumlightpath.com/Interior187-10.html>.

<sup>11</sup> See, e.g., *BellSouth Telecomms., Inc. v. FCC*, 469 F.3d 1052, 1060 (D.C. Cir. 2006) (holding that agencies have “no license to ignore the past when the past relates directly to the question at issue” and provides “data against which to test the [relevant] proposition[s]” on which the agency’s decision is based).

<sup>12</sup> See Exhibit 3 (listing those customers).

<sup>13</sup> See, e.g., Memorandum Opinion and Order, *Petition for Waiver of Pricing Flexibility Rules for Fast Packet Services*, 20 FCC Rcd 16840, ¶¶ 10-11 (2005); Order on Reconsideration, *Review of the Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers*, 19 FCC Rcd 20293, ¶¶ 20-21 (2004); Memorandum Opinion and Order, *Petition for Forbearance of the Verizon Telephone Companies Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c)*, 19 FCC Rcd 21496 (2004), *aff’d*, *EarthLink, Inc. v. FCC*, 462 F.3d 1 (D.C. Cir. 2006).

<sup>14</sup> Ed Gubbins, “Ether Way,” *Telephony’s Guide to carrierethernet* at 3 (Sept. 2007).

<sup>15</sup> See Ceterus Networks, *Ethernet and Multiservice Delivery*, <http://www.ceterusnetworks.com/solutions/ethernet-service-delivery.php>; Ceterus Networks, *The Universal Transport System™ for Metro Ethernet*, [http://www.ceterusnetworks.com/documents/UTS\\_Overview.pdf](http://www.ceterusnetworks.com/documents/UTS_Overview.pdf) (attached hereto as Exhibit 2).

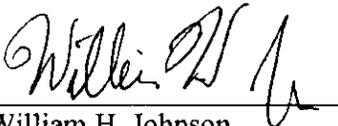
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BT Americas continue to assert that Ethernet over TDM loops is impracticable, the commercial offerings by carriers such as Ceterus and Met-Net<sup>16</sup> say otherwise. And as the Commission knows, neither the pending forbearance petitions nor Verizon's petition that was granted more than 18 months ago covered traditional TDM-based special access services, such as DS1s and DS3s, that can be used as inputs to enterprise broadband services like Ethernet services.

For these reasons, and those Verizon and others have set forth previously, the Commission should grant the pending forbearance petitions and allow the petitioners and any other providers the full relief requested from common carriage and *Computer Inquiry* regulation for the sophisticated broadband services at issue here.

Sincerely,



William H. Johnson

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<sup>16</sup> See Met-Net Communications, *Met-Net Scalable Bandwidth*, <http://www.met-net.com/services/copper>.

# **EXHIBIT 1**



AboveNet

## AboveNet Metro Ethernet

Powerful, Secure, Private

### About AboveNet

AboveNet, Inc. provides fiber connectivity solutions for businesses and carriers. Its private optical network delivers key network and IP services in and between 14 top U.S. metro markets and London. AboveNet's network is widely used in demanding markets such as financial services, media, health care, retail and government.

### Markets

Service areas include:

- New York-New Jersey
- Boston
- Philadelphia
- Baltimore
- Washington, D.C.
- Atlanta
- Chicago
- Dallas
- Houston
- Phoenix
- Los Angeles
- San Francisco Bay Area
- Portland
- Seattle
- and the United Kingdom

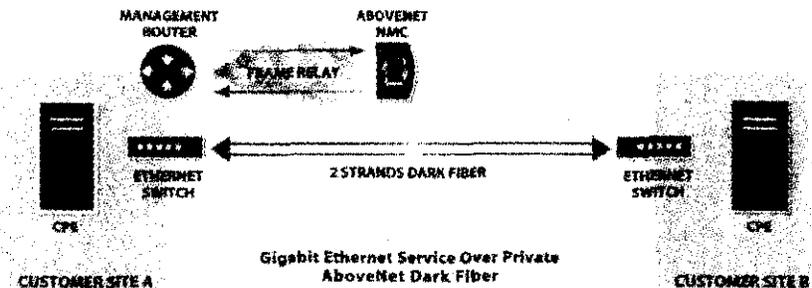
### Premium Networking Power.

The avalanche of data born of the technology revolution occurring inside corporate LANs is growing daily. New technology is standardizing on Gigabit Ethernet that delivers premium networking power directly to end user PCs. 100 MB Fast Ethernet just simply isn't sufficient to support demanding enterprise applications like multimedia file transfer, video conferencing, storage networking solutions, and e-business administrative and support operations across your LAN.

The challenge explodes when the need to connect islands of LANs arises throughout a metro area – reaching more departments and end users. Current alternatives for connecting locations with “high bandwidth” DS3s, or ATM, or Frame Relay services are inadequate, inflexible and don't scale. There is no room to support growth or the demands of the ever changing business climate. By combining private optical fiber with the versatility of Ethernet, AboveNet has created a service that your IT department can use to solve critical bandwidth issues connecting your Enterprise metro locations.

### Product Description

Exclusively dedicated metro fiber connecting customer locations providing the ultimate in physical security and scalable bandwidth up to 1 Gig in an elegant architecture designed to provide unparalleled performance.



### A simple, Cost effective business tool for enabling ...

- Fast deployment of Ethernet LAN extensions between on-net buildings
- Ease of network and system integration of new locations and acquired businesses
- Simple and incremental addition of future business applications
- Network consolidation - elimination of duplicate services
- Reduces number of network connections per customer location
- Unification of multiple applications across a single network
- Fewer contracts, fewer providers, better control



AboveNet

## AboveNet Metro Ethernet

Powerful, Secure, Private

### Extend the capabilities of your LAN to include:

1. Voice Over IP
2. Storage Applications
3. Multimedia File Transfer
4. Video Conferencing
5. e-Business Operation

### AboveNet Inc. Worldwide Headquarters

360 Hamilton Avenue  
White Plains, NY 10601  
General Info: 866 859 6971  
Sales: 877 462 2683

### AboveNet Inc. European Headquarters

Anchorage House  
2 Clove Crescent  
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Fax: +44(0) 20 7377 4701

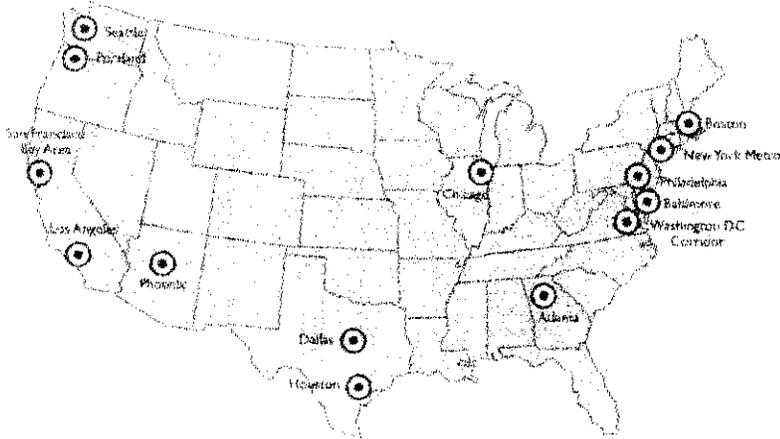
[www.above.net](http://www.above.net)

### Features and Benefits

- Private Optical Network, exclusively dedicated metro fiber between customer locations
- Plug and Play provisioning, fast deployment between on-net buildings
- Ease of network and system integration of new locations and acquired businesses
- Network consolidation - elimination of duplicate services, cost saving common infrastructure
- 100% customer control
- Secure and Scalable to 1 Gig
- Supports customer VLANs
- 24x7 Managed CPE

### Metro Ethernet Capabilities

- Voice over IP
- Storage
- Multimedia
- Video
- E-Business
- Finance
- Server Farms
- CAD-CAM
- Content
- Bio Tech
- Government
- Education
- Legal
- Health Care
- Public Safety



### Service Management & SLA

- AboveNet will monitor the service using an out-of-band management channel (frame relay circuit) and management router installed at the customer premise
- AboveNet's NOC is 7x24x365, located in Herndon Virginia.
- 2 hour response/ 4 hour MTTR with outage credits applicable for time out of service