

**USA & International PR contact:**

Bruce Reid
Zonic Group PR
breid@zonicgroup.com
+44 1672 550351

EMEA:

Kate Innes
Zonic PR EMEA
kinnes@zonicgroup.com
+44 1672 550354

Asia Pacific:

Shirley Yeh
Zonic PR Asia
syeh@ZonicGroup.com
+86 1339 1113085

Double celebration for MEF at NXTcomm

3 vendors receive new MEF18 certification & "2008 Awards for North American Carrier Ethernet Service Provider of the Year" winners announced

June 19th, Las Vegas, USA – Actelis Networks, MRV Communications and Resolute Networks have passed over 330 stringent test conditions verifying their conformance to MEF18 Abstract Test Suite for Circuit Emulation Services over Ethernet (CESoETH). The certificates of conformance to MEF18 were awarded today at NXTcomm by Nan Chen, president of the MEF (Metro Ethernet Forum) and Bob Mandeville president and founder of the MEF's approved certification lab, Iometrix.

"CESoETH is a major step in the industry's progression towards entirely packet-based networks" Nan Chen explained. "Service providers can integrate TDM and Ethernet services over a single Carrier Ethernet network, gaining flexibility, simplicity and cost-effectiveness without losing legacy TDM revenues. Now mobile backhaul providers can replace multiple TDM circuits with one high capacity low cost Ethernet connection using the available physical media. The MEF 18 Test Suite, based on MEF 8 specifications addresses a whole raft of critical impairments – such as delay variation, packet loss and delay – allowing providers to continue supporting TDM services with the utmost confidence."

Many enterprises still have a large installed base of PBXs and technical support staff familiar with PBX's many features, Nan Chen explained. Because CESoETH enables transparent PBX-to-PBX applications and signaling over Carrier Ethernet, they will be able to reap the cost and rapid provisioning benefits to be offered by providers, while preserving their investments and in-house expertise in legacy TDM.

Also announced today were the winners of by the prestigious "2008 Awards for North American Carrier Ethernet Service Provider of the Year". From a strong contingent of entries, "Best in Business" award was won by Verizon, while Optimum Lightpath and Time Warner Cable, as a result of a tie, were co-recipients of the "Services Innovation" award. Cox Business was also a finalist. These annual awards were judged by an independent and respected panel of industry analysts from Current Analysis, Forrester, Heavy Reading, IDC and Infonetics Research.

"Optimum Lightpath is honored to again be selected as a recipient of the MEF's Service Provider of the Year Award. This award reflects our commitment to service leadership and the successes we are seeing across all market segments. The MEF continues to be an important alliance of global industry leaders that is successfully globalizing Ethernet and we are proud to a contributing member", said Dave Pistacchio, EVP and General Manager, Optimum Lightpath.

"Time Warner Cable is thrilled to be selected as a recipient of the prestigious MEF award. As the first Cable MSO to join the MEF several years ago, we have always taken a leadership role in the development and delivery of leading Ethernet services to our business customers", said Kurt Fennel, VP, Product Management, Time Warner Cable.

"We are honored to be the recipient of this prestigious MEF award for the third year in a row. Verizon continues to experience tremendous growth in delivering leading edge Ethernet Service solutions to our customers. This MEF award along with MEF certification reinforces our position as the leader in this high growth area of the telecommunications market," said Tom Roche, Verizon Vice President - Corporate Marketing.

About The MEF

The MEF is a global industry alliance comprising more than 145 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/>