



News Release

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Sprint Reaches New Milestones for Network Speed

Teaming with Ciena, Sprint demonstrates network readiness to support rapidly growing wireless and wireline data needs of customers

OVERLAND PARK, Kan., and HANOVER, Md. – Aug. 15, 2013 – Sprint (NYSE:S) and Ciena (NASDAQ: CIEN) have teamed to achieve two significant



link uses Ciena WaveLogic 3 coherent optical processors on the 6500 Packet Optical Platform to enable Sprint to successfully transmit data at 100Gbps over the 2,100km (1,304-mile) circuit, with no regeneration of the signal at points in between. The longer distance between regeneration points provides reduced latency, hardware benefits and improved reliability, flexibility and performance for customers.

400Gbps: This trial was performed in the Silicon Valley area using existing Sprint fiber infrastructure and Ciena's 6500 with WaveLogic 3 cards; this high-capacity link operated without error. This demonstrated the viability of using 400Gbps channels alongside existing channels carrying live customer traffic. As a result, Sprint foresees the opportunity to add a network equivalent of high-speed traffic lanes for customers with high-demand requirements.

"Customers have expressed their hunger for higher speed networks to support their substantial data needs, which we project will only continue to grow exponentially," said Wayne Ward, vice president-Business and Product Development, Sprint. "The 400Gbps trial demonstrates our ability to offer higher speeds with our existing fiber, which means that our customers can feel assured that our network is future-proofed to meet their needs as they evolve. The delivery of 100Gbps and 400Gbps speeds will be critical as we launch our Ethernet Wave Services and support a growing wireless infrastructure."

As announced in 2012, Sprint is upgrading its optical backbone network with Ciena's 6500 Packet-Optical Platform as part of its Network Vision initiative. The advanced network is expected to enable Sprint to enhance transport network scalability, cost and performance. By adding Ciena's coherent optical technology to the mix, Sprint can scale its core network initially to 40Gbps and 100Gbps, and later to 400Gbps and beyond, as network demands dictate.

"Service providers are increasingly challenged to satisfy surging demand for bandwidth-hungry services and applications," said Francois Locoh-Donou, senior vice president-Global Products Group, Ciena. "Ciena's market-leading coherent technology offers the flexibility, programmability, scalability and cost-efficiency needed to meet these demands at 100Gbps speeds, 400Gbps speeds and beyond. These recent trials illustrate Sprint's ability to support high-speed data and significantly increase the traffic-carrying capacity of optical channels with no change to the underlying infrastructure – and that is a significant coup for any operator in this highly competitive market."

About Network Vision

Sprint's Network Vision strategy consolidates multiple network technologies into one new, seamless network with the goal of increasing efficiency and enhancing network coverage, call quality and data speeds for customers across the United States. Network Vision also delivers enhanced scalability and performance for Sprint's already robust wireline network, resulting in new capabilities for business customers.

About Sprint Business Solutions

Sprint is a global provider of secure and reliable wireline and wireless communication services. With a best-in-class all-IP network as the foundation, Sprint helps enterprises unleash the full potential of business critical applications through a single account team that understands converged, cloud and mobility solutions, delivering an unrivalled customer experience.

For more information on Sprint MPLS and converged solutions, visit www.sprint.com/convergence or contact your Sprint account team. To join in the latest discussions and learn more about business solutions available through wireline convergence, visit the Seamless Enterp



Sprint offers a comprehensive range of wireless and wireline communications services bringing