



DSL Forum Unveils Blueprint for Accelerating Adoption of Next-Generation Broadband Services

BroadbandSuite™ Initiative to Create a Common Global Access and Control Platform to Elevate the Experience of Next Generation IP Services

VANCOUVER, Canada – September 12, 2006 – The DSL Forum, an international consortium of more than 200 member organizations, announces a major initiative to fuel the growth of next-generation broadband services. Taking into account the variety of ways people are beginning to enjoy “quadruple play” services – voice, video, data and mobile – the new BroadbandSuite initiative expands the DSL Forum’s mission beyond DSL to address interoperability and management across DSL, fiber and alternative broadband technologies.

For the past 12 years, the DSL Forum has helped to define key infrastructure and procedures needed to drive global DSL growth. Today, DSL is the dominant broadband technology, used by more than 150 million subscribers worldwide for IP-based services that range from ‘simple’ high speed data transfer to multi-channel HDTV, video on-demand, videoconferencing and VoIP. Service providers are evolving their access infrastructures to serve more customers with newer services through adoption of a common set of specifications, including DSL Forum Technical Reports (TR). DSL Forum members are building on their achievements to develop specifications that embrace multiple broadband access methods, applying best practices developed for DSL to the range of access technologies.

“The DSL Forum serves as the catalyst for developing critical standards necessary for the delivery of DSL and integrated services across the globe,” said Matt Davis, Director, Consumer Multiplay at IDC. “Companies not normally associated strictly with DSL, such as consumer electronics vendors and home networking companies stand to benefit as the DSL Forum evolves in order to create the technological underpinnings necessary for the delivery of voice, video, and multimedia over DSL and other broadband technologies.”

BroadbandSuite extends the concept of traditional end-to-end solutions by developing an access and management platform responsive to devices beyond the customer gateway as well as the distribution network. This “blueprint” is designed to minimize provisioning and maintenance issues for service and application providers who must support vast and growing requirements of new applications and hardware. With BroadbandSuite,

components work together seamlessly, delivering a high quality consumer experience vital for driving next-generation voice, video, data and mobile services.

“Our BroadbandSuite initiative clearly reflects the DSL Forum’s commitment to stimulate greater opportunities for the broadband industry as well as even better value for consumers,” said Michael Brusca, chairman and president, DSL Forum.

About BroadbandSuite

BroadbandSuite has three focus areas: BroadbandControl, BroadbandAccess and BroadbandHome. Features include:

- **BroadbandControl:** Creates an intelligent, programmable control layer that unifies management of next-generation network elements and devices, which empowers service providers to deliver personalized services that enhance the subscriber’s broadband experience.
- **BroadbandAccess:** Defines specifications for broadband-agnostic access network architectures, evolving from ATM to Ethernet-based access aggregation. With Ethernet, service providers can better support high-bandwidth applications such as IPTV, video on demand and videoconferencing.
- **BroadbandHome:** Unifies the home networking environment by establishing a common set of capabilities for networked devices as well as automating device activation and configuration to simplify the service delivery process.

About the DSL Forum

The DSL Forum tailors broadband to meet the needs of the next generation of multi-media services and the online community. By forging agreement on common technical requirements and embracing new applications, the Forum works to define specifications, streamline processes and share best practices that set the stage for effective deployments and explosive global broadband growth. Established in 1994, the DSL Forum is an international industry consortium of over 200 leading service providers, equipment manufacturers and other interested parties. www.dslforum.org.

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Further DSL Forum information is available from:

Media Contacts

(North and South America):

Laurie Gonzalez

DSL Forum

+1 770 [761-9300](tel:761-9300)

lgonzalez@bellsouth.net

(Europe and Asia Pacific):

Carol Friend and Charlie Meredith-Hardy

PIELLE Consulting

+44 (0)20 7323 1587

dsl_forum@pielleconsulting.com