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## **DSL Forum Announces TR-067 “ADSL Interoperability Testing Plan”**

### ***Consistent Testing Requirements Mean More DSL Equipment Options, Shorter Time to Market, and Reduced Costs***

*Toronto, Ontario, CANADA* – (May 18, 2004) – A new Technical Report, (TR)-067 "ADSL Interoperability Testing Plan," has been approved by the DSL Forum, defining the technical criteria for asymmetric digital subscriber line (ADSL) interoperability and providing the foundation for the DSL Forum's global Interoperability Program in North America, Europe and Asia. TR-067 specifies ADSL bit-rate and distance requirements beyond those previously specified for ADSL recommendations, and reflects the recent improvements in ADSL modem performance at a time when an increasing number of DSL customers are getting service at 3 Megabits and faster. TR-067 defines a consistent testing and reporting environment that enhances the reliability of test results, leading to lower deployment costs for service providers, better equipment support and a myriad of consumer product choices to better serve individual needs.

DSL Forum's President Tom Starr said: "TR-067 represents two years of cooperative effort and demonstrates international industry-wide convergence on interoperability standards. In order to strengthen DSL's global broadband lead, TR-067 raises the performance threshold for ADSL technology higher than ever, therefore enabling products to interoperate across service provider networks. Driven strongly by both the service provider and vendor communities, this work will have immediate impact on testing procedures around the world, ultimately leading to significant strides that will benefit everyone, especially consumers, at a time when today's lifestyles demand broadband DSL to keep pace."

Specifically, TR-067 defines testing using pass/fail criteria, specifies testing laboratory requirements, and establishes the format for conducting all ADSL testing with more extensive testing of upper-layer protocol functions and built in modem diagnostics. It builds on and strengthens the previous TR-048 specification for ADSL testing, establishing higher benchmarks for performance and interoperability. Compared with TR-048, TR-067 requires approximately 10% greater bit-rate on most loops, and approximately 30% greater bit-rate for loops with bridged taps. The much-improved performance with bridged taps helps in providing the same level of service to all DSL customers in a service area. It is notable that the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) made the original TR-048 a part of the requirement in the updated ITU-T ADSL2 (G.992.3, also known as G.dmt.bis) standard.

Additionally, the DSL Forum's Interoperability Program's mission is to empower global ubiquitous xDSLs, and as part of this program the Forum recognizes Independent Testing Laboratories (ITLs), which ultimately conduct the interoperability tests and determine whether the equipment passes. Now service providers can request ITL product testing reports based on DSL Forum's new TR-067, with standardized performance levels for typical loop lengths with associated rates and a typical set of interferers. In addition, with growing regularity, the Request for Proposal (RFP) process between service providers and equipment manufacturers has been streamlined, by referencing and requiring adherence to these DSL Forum TR specifications.

Starr continues: "TR-067 demonstrates how we are continuing to enhance service providers' and equipment manufacturers' ability to roll out economical, effective and ultimately portable products for online homes and businesses, accelerating the achievements of a broadband DSL global mass market."

### **About the DSL Forum**

**DSL Forum** is an international industry consortium of nearly 200 leading service providers, equipment manufacturers and other interested parties, focused on developing the full potential of broadband DSL to meet

the needs of the mass market. With the established goal of 200 million customers by 2005, the DSL Forum works to streamline processes, develop specifications and share best practices that set the stage for effective deployments, and explosive global DSL growth. By developing new standards and embracing new applications, the DSL Forum is tailoring DSL to meet the needs of the next generation of multi-media services and the online community. Established in 1994, more information about the DSL Forum is available from its industry site [www.dsiforum.org](http://www.dsiforum.org). Information tailored to end-users is available on [www.dsllife.com](http://www.dsllife.com).

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