

ExchangeAsia

Volume 16 Issue 41

ISSN 1320 – 2669

25 October 2008

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Steve Zhang, AsiaInfo's president and CEO, claimed: "Competition is increasing among China's three newly integrated telecom carriers as they build out their product and service platforms on a levelled playing field. Our world-class BI systems continue to benefit from these trends by enabling carriers to launch targeted marketing campaigns and differentiate their service offerings, which can ultimately increase end-user satisfaction and boost profits."

According to Zhang: "In anticipation of this stage of market development, we have strategically invested in the research and development of our BI systems for the past several years and are now recognized as a leader in this market."

The BI systems, which are designed to improve decision-making capability, efficiency and accuracy, will integrate China Telecom's existing fixed-line business with its recently acquired CDMA business. AsiaInfo will help China Telecom migrate the historical data from its acquired CDMA system to the new BI systems in order to ensure a smooth transition from a fixed-line and broadband provider to a full-service operator. The BI systems offer data mining, data analysis and data summarisation capabilities, providing China Telecom with accurate, detailed and up-to-date information.

AsiaInfo claims to be a market leader in China's BI market. Its systems currently support more than 260 million users and over 1.5 petabytes of data. The company began operations in the USA in 1993 and moved major operations to China in 1995. Since 1998, AsiaInfo has continued diversifying its product offerings and now claims to be a major provider of telecom software solutions in China.

China Unicom taps Seven for push email service

China Unicom has launched a push email service for its mobile customers, using technology from Seven.

Seven has established a local network operations centre to support China Unicom and demonstrate its commitment to the Chinese business market.

Seven claims to be the only foreign mobile email provider to address the growing Chinese market by establishing a NOC in China. It claims that the local NOC "mitigates security concerns because no messages will be relayed outside China to another country." Seven also plans further investment in China through expansion of its research and design centre in Hangzhou.

Seven claims that China Unicom selected it to "provide their subscribers with the most reliable mobile email experience across a wide range of devices...Seven's mobile messaging and email offers...support for more than 340 mobile devices across all the major operating systems including Windows Mobile, Brew, J2ME, Symbian and Palm OS."

Seven claims that its technology gives China Unicom subscribers the ability to manage business email, contacts and calendar information for Microsoft Exchange and Lotus Domino, and access top Internet and Chinese email providers including: 133sh, Sina, Sohu, 163, 126, 21cn, 139, QQ and Google Mail. Seven also claims to offer improved support for Chinese input and writing with a wide choice of devices including touch screen devices.

Nokia invests in mobile ad network, Madhouse

Nokia Growth Partners, part of Nokia's venture capital arm, has invested in Madhouse, China's largest mobile advertising network.

Madhouse operates a WAP network, the MadNetwork, to distribute advertising to cellphones. It is claimed to cover three quarters of China's total mobile Internet traffic and company claims to have over 1,100 major sites on its roster.

Madhouse has managed several mobile advertising campaigns for Nokia during the past year and is working with Nokia as it expands its software and services initiative in China.

"Having ran a number of campaigns with successful results together last year, Nokia is a satisfied mobile advertising customer of Madhouse," says Dan Wong, who leads Nokia's Software and Services in China.

"Madhouse is a promising company in an area of importance to Nokia and is our first investment in the region", says Paul Asel, Partner at Nokia Growth Partners. "An investment in Madhouse extends an established Nokia relationship as well as a partnership with Gobi Venture Partners, an early stage venture firm focused on digital media investments in which Nokia invested last year. Madhouse is an example of how Nokia has benefited from the Fund of Funds program that Nokia launched in 2007."

Wong added: "Madhouse's intelligent mobile ad serving capabilities and its wide mobile ad network coverage complement Nokia's global efforts in many ways. Nokia benefits from leveraging Madhouse's mobile advertising partnerships and sales force, and gains insight into the development of China's mobile advertising sector via the country's market leader."

Aspect opens support centre in Dalian

Unified communications and contact centre software and services provider, Aspect, has opened new technical support centre in Dalian to provide support services to customers and partners across the Asia Pacific region.

"It is critical that organisations are able to manage their customer inquiries seamlessly, with no downtime, so this new centre in Dalian is designed to ensure that our customers are able to solve any potential contact centre issues without delay and that their calls are handled by knowledgeable Aspect experts," said Lui Simhua, senior vice president, Asia Pacific and the Middle East, Aspect.

Aspect claims that the technical support engineers at the new centre have received extensive training and are well-equipped to respond to customer inquiries related to Aspect Unified IP, the company's all-in-one, unified contact centre solution, and all applications within PerformanceEdge, including Aspect Quality Management, a voice and screen recording application, and Aspect eWorkforce Management, which provides forecasting, scheduling and tracking functionality.

India

BSNL picks UTStarcom for large scale ADSL2+ rollout

BSNL has extended its contract with UTStarcom to build the second phase of a countrywide multiplay ADSL2+ network launched in December 2007.

UTStarcom deployed 1.3 million broadband subscriber lines during the first phase of BSNL's multiplay network deployment and in the second phase will deploy its iAN-8000 multiservice access node (MSAN) in 962 cities throughout India to enable the addition of 1.1 million new broadband subscriber lines.

The network expansion will help BSNL accelerate its existing broadband connections on subscriber lines by more than 30 times the current speed, according to UTStarcom. (existing 'broadband' services operate at only 64kbps).

UTStarcom will continue to serve as the turnkey provider for phase two of the deployment, maintaining full responsibility for the network design and planning, deployment, service rollout, and maintenance of the network.

Using UTStarcom's ADS 2+ equipment, BSNL will be able to extend its offerings of broadband-based, triple-play services such as video-on-demand, video multicast, VPN services and high-speed Internet services to another 1.1 million broadband subscribers across the country while simultaneously gaining the benefits of network flexibility, scalability for innovation and the opportunity for rapid return on investment, according to UTStarcom.

UTStarcom also has deployed its NetRing 10000 optical transport solution in support of this multiplay service for the aggregation of DSL traffic in BSNL's network.

New COO for Bharti Airtel Mobile in Maharashtra & Goa

Bharti Airtel has appointed Mr Sunil Tandon as COO of its Maharashtra and Goa circle - Mobile services.

Prior to his appointment he was head - devices and international roaming at Bharti Airtel New Delhi. He joined Airtel in August 2003 and has held various roles in mobile services marketing.

Bharti Airtel is structured into three strategic business units - Mobile services, Telemedia services and Enterprise services. The mobile business provides mobile & fixed wireless services using GSM technology across 23 telecom circles. The Telemedia business provides broadband & telephone services in 94 cities and is making a foray into the IPTV and DTH segments. The Enterprise business provides end-to-end telecom solutions to corporate customers and national & international long distance services to carriers.

Singapore

Equinix to build second Singapore data centre

Equinix has announced plans to build a new 11,000 square metre data centre in Singapore, and a 30,000 square metre data centre in London.

The new Singapore centre (SG2), located in the western region of Singapore, will be built out in phases, with capital expenditures for the initial phase expected to be approximately \$US45 million, which will be spent by the end of 2009. It will provide additional capacity to Equinix's existing SG1 centre located in the southern region of Singapore.

"Despite the challenges of the current global economy, Tier 1 Research is forecasting continued strong demand in the data centre and colocation services market globally, given the supply-demand imbalance that has existed for the last several years in most markets, including London and Singapore," said Dan Golding, vice president and research director at Tier 1 Research. "In fact, our belief is that downward pressure on the economy favours colocation providers, as companies forego the significant capital expenditures needed to develop their own internal data centres."

The initial phase of the Singapore centre is expected to open in Q3 2009. It will provide additional supply to the Singapore market that currently has no significant new data centre builds underway and that is expected to remain capacity constrained through 2010.

The first phase of the SG2 centre will accommodate approximately 700 cabinets, and, at full build out, the centre will have a total capacity of approximately 1,700 cabinets.

"In addition to providing the much needed colocation space, the new centre will enable Equinix to continue the strong growth of the company's peering business, as the SG2 centre will be located close to one of the largest submarine cable landing points in the region," Equinix said.

"These two new fully funded builds, in addition to our recently announced build in Paris, represent Equinix's longstanding strategy of measured expansion in strategic markets where demand is strong," said Steve Smith, president and CEO of Equinix.

"In London and Singapore, we continue to experience strong growth and anticipate that we will soon reach capacity in these existing centres. These new centres will provide the company with a long-term solution to meet the demand in these markets, as we pursue our flexible expansion model that enables us to build out a property in multiple phases over time."

PacketExchange enters Singapore market

PacketExchange, a global provider of private network services with Internet economics, has launched services at Equinix Singapore's Internet Business Exchange (IBX).

It says the move was spurred by the growing trend in Asia of software as a service (SaaS) and cloud computing and the associated need for high-quality global connectivity into and out of the region.

PacketExchange is inviting existing Singapore IBX customers to plug into its network with a single ethernet port to gain immediate access to a range of dedicated network services including global ethernet, global peering, application delivery or content delivery network services, and dedicated internet access with multi-homed access to multiple tier 1 IP transit backbones.

PacketExchange's global network consists of a redundant mesh of dedicated wavelengths and layer-2 MPLS/VPLS technology designed to ensure low latency, near-zero packet loss and near-zero jitter, and to offer a fast, reliable and cost-effective alternative to the public Internet.

PacketExchange claims that, through carefully managed quality of service (QoS), its global private network supports today's most demanding applications such as digital media production, high-definition video, telepresence and cloud computing, while making private network security and guaranteed performance economical for organisations both large and small.

Chuck Stormon, CMO of PacketExchange, said: "This deployment will enable our existing and new customers in Singapore and the surrounding region to connect direct with digital trading partners around the world. As part of the launch, Singapore IBX customers will benefit from exclusive access to eXpress, PacketExchange's revolutionary global peering service, extending private peering to over 120 members' networks in and near its 44 points of presence worldwide."

PacketExchange is a privately held company headquartered in London, UK with network facilities in Amsterdam, Brussels, Chicago, Dallas, Dublin, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, London, Los Angeles, Manchester, Miami, New York, Palo Alto, Paris, San Francisco, San Jose, Seattle, Secaucus NJ, Singapore and Washington DC.

Dimension Data to take all of Datacraft Asia

Shareholders in Singapore Stock Exchange-listed Datacraft Asia have voted in favour of an offer by Dimension Data to purchase, for \$US276m, the 44.9 percent stake of the company that it does not already own.

Shareholders were offered \$US1.33 a share - a 34 percent premium to Datacraft's closing share price of \$US0.99 cents on Monday 21 July 2008.

Datacraft CEO, Bill Padfield said: "Apart from offering tremendous benefits to our employees and clients, Datacraft's privatisation also positions us as a stronger force...We will be able to operate with greater flexibility and leverage opportunities internationally, which in turn will accelerate growth in key markets...We will be able to share group-wide resources and capitalise on the cashflows and capital structures of Dimension Data."

Laos

Laos gets first 3G service

Lao Telecommunications Co, the largest telecommunication operator in Laos, has launched the country's first 3G service, in the capital, Vientiane.

From Vientiane the network will expand to provincial areas in 2009. Lao Telecom hopes to have 30,000 3G subscribers by the end of 2008 and 100,000 subscribers by the end of 2009.

Presently, Lao Telecom provides EDGE and GPRS services nationwide. It will use the network to offer voice and video telephony, Internet access, multimedia download/java games, MMS/SMS and TV & Radio streaming.

Lao Telecom is a joint venture between the government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (51 percent) and Shenington Investments (49 percent) (in which Thaicom Plc is a major shareholder).

Bangladesh

Ericsson to build Bangla Trac's international gateway

International gateway operator, Bangla Trac, has selected Ericsson to manage operations of its new switching infrastructure.

Ericsson will provide operational readiness and manage the day-to-day operations of the new wireline network which provides gateway services for incoming and outgoing international traffic.

The contract builds on a previous agreement to deliver and implement a fixed-line network based on Ericsson's telephony softswitch, Redback SmartEdge routers and the Marconi OMS multi-service provisioning platform.

Bangla Trac Communication was set up with the aim of becoming the "carrier's carrier of choice" for the provision of international gateway services and plans to all the major operators worldwide.

New Zealand

Datacraft helps Telecom NZ to meet wholesale mandate

Datacraft says it has completed the first phase of a major application development that has enabled Telecom NZ Wholesale to provide an ordering tool enabling it to meet a tight government-mandated delivery schedule.

According to Datacraft, "This project was particularly challenging as it related to a new Telecom service offering – Enhanced UBA (Unbundled Bitstream Access) which Telecom was required to deliver under a standard terms determination issued by the New Zealand Commerce Commission"

According to Matt Crockett, CEO for Telecom Wholesale, "The Government's separation regime set demanding timelines for a completion of a complex programme

of work to exceed its regulation objectives...Datacraft's team of Microsoft specialists played a key role in the project as they were able to adapt quickly to changing project needs, without losing focus on the ultimate goal. They also demonstrated a deep understanding of our legacy back end systems that was critical to achieving the high level of integration required."

Datacraft says it leveraged its existing service framework, 'Automation Server', to rapidly implement business logic that supports a range of automated provisioning scenarios.

"This is a major achievement for our Microsoft Practice team as it is by far the largest and most complex project that we have been involved in to date" said Robin Hartendorp, managing director for Datacraft New Zealand. "The successful deployment is a tribute to the experience and dedication of our strong development team. We were able to meet the project's demands on schedule and within budget, and most important of all, keep Telecom happy."

TelstraClear to resell Arbor Networks DDoS protection

TelstraClear has become a reseller of Arbor Networks' technology designed to protect service provider and enterprise networks from distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks.

The equipment will be handled by DMZGlobal, TelstraClear's specialist IT security division. According to Adrian van Hest general manager of DMZGlobal. Arbor's core product is Peakflow which comes in the Peakflow SP version for service providers and Peakflow X for the enterprise.

A key claim for the technology is that, by monitoring network behaviours, it can detect and counter attacks well ahead of technologies that rely in analysing and developing specific protection to specific threat such as virus signatures.

Arbor is already represented in New Zealand by Sanvu and the company said this arrangement would continue.

Pan Asia

IBM creates 'Growth Markets' HQ in Shanghai

IBM has formed a 'Growth Markets' organisation based in Shanghai with regional headquarters in Dubai and Sao Paulo to tap market opportunities in high potential markets worldwide.

The new organisation covers about 50 countries across Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and Latin America. IBM has also announced new client agreements in a number of these growth markets. It claims these reflect its "strategic focus on delivering technology and services to help businesses in growth markets solve complex business problems, as well as tough industry and societal issues."

Agreements announced are:

- A strategic outsourcing agreement with Bharti Platinum, India's largest private telecom services provider. IBM says this will further enhance the customer service experience for Bharti's top-end Platinum customers.

The six-year contract for outsourcing of its contact services to IBM's Managed Business Process Services (MBPS) unit will involve augmentation of Bharti Airtel's sales, customer service, and back office capabilities.

IBM Daksh Business Process Services, a wholly-owned subsidiary of IBM, also will provide a suite of services covering both voice and such back office operations as customer service, collections, customer retention and other relevant customer services for Bharti Airtel's Platinum customers from its centres.

- A contract with Kookmin Bank, Korea's largest financial services institution, to implement its Next Generation Banking System (NGBS). This bank-wide NGBS project, to be completed in 2010, will consolidate all of the company's different business units around the world, providing "a highly flexible platform to transform Kookmin Bank into a leading global bank." The agreement includes 20 projects in areas such as application integration, application management service and system integration.
- IBM will provide remote and onsite help desk and IT equipment support services to Philippine National Bank (PNB), a government-owned banking institution, under a three-year contract renewal.
- The Tianjin Economic Technological Development Area (TEDA) Administrative Commission, China, has awarded a three year e-Learning contract to IBM. It will see IBM training 3,000 selected graduates from six universities in Tianjin City to become IT service professionals for mainframe and Java-based systems.

Such training will enable the TEDA ePark to tap into a pool of talent to provide outsourcing services in areas such as software development, financial back office services, financial outsourcing, administration and human resources, according to IBM. Using the Saba e-Learning Management System, virtual classroom training will be provided via the Internet.

- Vietnam Technology and Telecommunications Joint Stock Company (VNTT) has signed a contract with IBM to build a cloud computing environment using IBM software, services and hardware. IBM will build a cloud computing centre using IBM System x, BladeCenter and System Storage managed by IBM Blue Cloud technologies.

Also, VNTT will provide its customers with cloud-based collaboration services such as email on Lotus Domino, intranet service on WebSphere Portal Express and company server on Lotus Foundations, managed by Tivoli software.

According to IBM, VNTT's clients will be able to take advantage of a more flexible, cost effective infrastructure, but still access computing resources and services at any time - just as they use other shared services.

DotAsia partners with Creative Commons

The DotAsia Organisation and Creative Commons have forged a strategic partnership that they claim will support the creativity of Asia's people.

DotAsia, the not-for-profit registry operator for the .Asia Internet top-level domain, plans to commit \$US100,000 to Creative Commons in support of its cause, outreach and community efforts in Asia. DotAsia says it will also contribute time and effort to assist in the coordination of events, activities of CC's regional chapters and various other socio-technical initiatives, such as a next generation copyright registry project.

The partnership was announced by the CEO of Creative Commons, Mr Joi Ito, and Mr Edmon Chung, the CEO of DotAsia, during the launch ceremony for Creative Commons Hong Kong (CCHK) at the HKICC Lee Shau Kee School of Creativity, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

"We are thrilled to work with Joi and the brilliant team at Creative Commons", said Edmon Chung, "the partnership matches the core mission of DotAsia to promote Internet development and adoption in Asia. It also helps strengthen our connection to the worldwide IPR community.

Joi Ito added: "The contribution from DotAsia is very meaningful to the development of Creative Commons in Asia. Through our partnership with DotAsia CC can look forward to building stronger rapport with the creative and cultural communities in Greater China and Asia."

Earlier this year DotAsia and the International Federation Against Copyright Theft - Greater China (IFACT-GC), representing the Motion Picture Association (MPA) in Hong Kong, agreed to establish a cooperative mechanism for the online protection of movies and to promote the proactive adoption of the .Asia domain by, and educational programs for, the creative industries around Asia.

DotAsia Organisation (<http://www.registry.asia>) is a not-for-profit corporation with a mission to promote Internet development and adoption in Asia. The organisation oversees the '.Asia' top-level Internet domain name, and is formed as an open consortium of 20 official top-level-domain authorities around the region, including .CN (China), .JP (Japan), .KR (Korea), .IN (India), .NZ (New Zealand), .PH (Philippines), and five regional Internet organisations including APNIC, APNG, APCERT, PAN and APTLD.

Ovum flags need for managed mobility services

According to research firm Ovum, mobile service providers are still falling short of multinationals' enterprise mobility needs and the gap between these multinationals' priorities and their current mobile service provider's capability remains significant.

"Our third annual mobility research programme with multinationals highlights the particular challenges they face in managing the growing cost and complexity of mobility on a global scale," Ovum says. "They place high demands on their service providers and many are looking to managed mobility services as at least part of the solution."

According to Ovum analysts Pauline Trotter and Claudio Castelli, "Interest in managed services and outsourcing for mobility has continued to grow over the past year – we found that managed mobility is the main focus of new sourcing plans within multinationals. Such services offer hope of a solution to the difficulties multinationals face in managing multiple relationships with mobile service providers, managing the ever-expanding device fleet, managing secure data applications, analysing hundreds of bills and allocating costs back to departments or users."

Sixty percent of respondents to the Ovum survey said that they are planning to use managed mobile services contracts within the next two years. "They see the most important components of managed mobility service as being the billing and analysis tools, management of contracts with multiple mobile network operators and device management," according to the Ovum analysts.

They add that: "There is more certainty than a year ago about who will fill the managed mobility provider role. Mobile network operators are well placed to win managed services contracts from multinationals and some have been actively pursuing such opportunities. However, the companies we spoke to are just as likely to turn to a systems integrator as a mobile network operator for managed mobility services contracts."

Tata Comms & Cisco plans global public telepresence rooms

Tata Communications has opened public Cisco telepresence rooms in hotels in the US and the UK.

These will link to its existing rooms in hotels in Mumbai, and CII offices Bangalore and Chennai in conjunction with the Indian Hotels Company the Confederation of India Industry. Cisco has opened a room at its offices in California that will be part of the same network. Cisco claims that "this new model marks a significant step in Cisco's vision of building a public global Cisco TelePresence network." According to Tata the network "expands the market to small and mid-sized businesses."

Tata Communications has plans to open additional rooms in Hyderabad, Gurgaon and New York later this year, with a more extensive global rollout of 100 rooms planned to be deployed by the end 2009.

Cisco's pricing varies from US\$299 to US\$899 per hour, depending on the size of the room selected, which can accommodate one to 18 meeting participants in a single room. Tata Comms has not disclosed its prices.

Kaspersky Lab opens Oceania region office in Australia

IT security specialist, Kaspersky, Lab has opened an office in Melbourne to develop its business throughout Oceania.

It has named Alexey Gromyko, previously business development manager in Australia and New Zealand, as its head. Kaspersky has had a presence in the Australian and New Zealand markets for several years and claims many local customers, six distributors and hundreds of resellers.

New head for Orange Business Services Aus & NZ

Orange Business Services (part of France Telecom and formerly Equant) has named Tim Cavill as managing director for Australia and New Zealand.

He will be based in Sydney and report to Yee May Leong, senior vice president Asia Pacific. He has spent the past nine years at SAP where he was vice president, indirect channels, Asia Pacific and Japan. Before that he was managing director at Viewlocity, a global high-end supply-chain software company. He replaces Ian McCallum who left in June to become director Strategic Development at Interactive.

Cavill said: "We have aggressive plans to expand the network related services teams to meet demand from a wide range of large corporate clients. Orange Business Services has shown double-digit growth during the past three years, and I will work closely with the senior management team to build on that momentum."

(In 2006, Orange became France Telecom's single brand for Internet, television and mobile services in the majority of countries where it operates, and Orange Business Services the banner for services offered to businesses worldwide).

Technology

Juniper adds more power to Junos at the network edge

Juniper Networks has moved to further exploit one of its key competitive advantages - its Junos operating system - with new functions and features and hardware added to its Junos-based edge routers.

The enhancements, under the banner of "The Intelligent Services Edge", are aimed primarily at meeting the needs of services providers faced with delivering an ever widening range of services over the same underlying core network while at the same time trying to reduce the cost and complexity of doing so.

"Junos has long been a key differentiator for Juniper, and with the Intelligent Services Edge, we are further extending our leadership by leveraging Junos as the foundation for many more advanced edge services such as application awareness, broadband routing, security, voice and multimedia," said Manoj Leelanivas, senior VP and general manager of the Edge and Aggregation business unit, Juniper Networks.

Juniper will upgrade its M-Series and MX Series edge routers to add the subscriber management technology, currently found on its E-series routers, enabling them to support services-based routing. They will also provide stateful, subscriber-aware application monitoring enabling application-specific service levels and QoS treatments; application layer security with intrusion detection and prevention and

session border control enabling them to ensure quality of service and security for VoIP and multimedia applications.

On the hardware side, for the MX-series Juniper is introducing the MultiService DPC, billed as "a high performance, purpose-built processing engine that will enable customers to run the new Junos services...without impacting the routers' forwarding performance." It will also enable network operators to support security features such as stateful firewall, NAT and IPSec directly on the MX-series router.

The MX-series will also be enhanced with the addition of a new Flexible PIC Concentrator that provides packet over SONET capabilities with the same OC-48 and OC-192 physical interface cards used for Junipers M and T series routers. Juniper says these will enable providers to use the MX-series to connect to traditional, non-ethernet-based networks for the first time.

The performance of the M-series multiservice routers will be upgraded with new forwarding engine board that can be installed in existing in-service units to add 68 percent more capacity. The full suite of Intelligent Services Edge hardware and software enhancements are expected to be available by Q309.

Endorsement from IDC

According to IDC, in an 'Event Flash' issued in the wake of Juniper's announcement, "As each of these applications, blades, and service engines are integrated into the MX-Series and M-Series, a level of operational efficiency is achieved because they are all operating on one software platform: Junos. Independent studies have found that deploying Junos reduces the time providers spend on operations tasks by 24 percent.

"When we spoke to Juniper's customers, we found that Junos does play a large part in their decision to add another Juniper product because it operates on the same software platform, which is a known and proven platform."

IDC says the MX product line has increased its revenue 228 percent from the first half of 2007 to the first half of 2008, arriving at a run rate of \$US300 million a year, with over 250 customers in place. "This rapid product ramp - the MX was introduced in 2007 - is largely attributable to service provider applications that require high GbE and 10GbE port density as well as Layer 2, Layer 3, and MPLS features," IDC said.

Huawei develops 100GBE prototype

Huawei claims to have become the first vendor to develop prototype 100 gigabit ethernet technology, following its launch of a 100G wavelength division multiplexing (WDM) prototype in July this year.

It claims that "The 100GE technology provides a high-speed ethernet interface and works with 40G and 100G WDM technologies to provide a complete end-to-end transport solution for operators that can support large-capacity data services." Its 100GBE technology however does not use 40G WDM, it achieves its throughput by bonding together ten 10Gbps data streams on a WDM optical fibre. Huawei is participating in the development of the 100GE standard 802.3ba.

Nokia Siemens base stations now LTE ready

Nokia Siemens Networks says its is now shipping Long Term Evolution (LTE) compatible base station hardware which will need only a software upgrade (available from the second half of 2009) to achieve full LTE functionality.

The company also claims that by the end of 2008 it will be delivering the new LTE-ready hardware to more than 10 mobile operators in Europe, Asia and North America. It also claims to be conducting LTE trials in operators' live network environments in preparation for the expected launch of commercial networks in 2010. Beyond that, the company says it "is already working on the next step of radio evolution called LTE-Advanced which is further enhancing LTE capabilities towards the data rate of 1Gbps."