10, 40 AND 100 GIGABIT ETHERNET MULTI-VENDOR LIVE INTEROPERABILTY DEMONSTRATION SHOWCASED IN ETHERNET ALLIANCE BOOTH #1253 AT OFC/NFOEC 2011

Ethernet Alliance Prepares for Next Generation Ethernet

March 8, 2011, OFC/NFOEC, Los Angeles, CA – The efforts of Ethernet Alliance members once again enabled an industry first with its successful live demonstration of a network running 10, 40, and 100 Gigabit Ethernet (GbE) traffic. This effort is amazing not only in its ability to showcase the technology, but it is the culmination of the multiple contributions of so many initiatives and members.

The Ethernet Alliance has supported the IEEE Std. 802.3ba[TM]-2010 from when it was a mere concept through to ratification of the standard. The organization continues to work towards demonstrating interoperability and market education to help prepare the Ethernet industry for adoption of these new technologies. Multiple new initiatives have also formed within the Ethernet Alliance to discuss the future of Ethernet technologies and what will be needed to support them.

The initiatives are supported by subcommittees such as the Higher Speed Ethernet subcommittee led by Dave Schneider of Ixia who is currently focusing on educational materials and interoperability events, the Next Generation Enterprise Cabling subcommittee led by Brad Booth of AppliedMicro and Frank Yang of CommScope who are looking at what kind of infrastructure will be required to build out next generation data centers, and the Higher Speed Modular Interconnect subcommittee led by Greg McSorley from Amphenol who is demonstrating interoperability of high speed optical modules and copper cables. In addition, the Ethernet Alliance has unveiled the topic for its upcoming June 14th Technology Exploration Forum, "Next Generation 100GbE Interconnect Specifications," to be held at Techmart in Santa Clara, CA.

"Members of the Ethernet Alliance are able to come together to demonstrate the newest of Ethernet technologies while also openly communicating with each other about the trends and directions for the next generation of Ethernet," commented Brad Booth, of Applied Micro, who served as the technical coordinator for the OFC demonstration. "The Ethernet Alliance is a great forum for competitors in the industry to come together to achieve those goals."

The OFC demonstration set-up includes the Ixia XM12 tester and the Spirent TestCenter tester generating 10GbE traffic to the Mellanox top-of-rack switch, which then drives the Cisco CRS-3 routers that aggregates those 10GbE streams into a single 100GbE stream

back into the testers. Members participating in the Ethernet Alliance booth include: ADVA Optical Networking, AppliedMicro, Amphenol, Cisco, CommScope, Ixia, Mellanox, NetApp, Opnext, Siemon, Spirent, and Tyco Electronics.

About the Ethernet Alliance
The Ethernet Alliance is a global consortium of Ethernet end users, system and component vendors, industry experts and university and government professionals who are committed to the continued success and expansion of Ethernet. Founded in 2006, the organization serves the Ethernet industry and promotes the ongoing incubation, development, interoperability testing, and support of technologies based or dependent on Ethernet standards.

For more information about becoming an Ethernet Alliance member, visit the Ethernet Alliance website at http://www.ethernetalliance.org. For a list of the organization's 2011 events calendar, go to http://ethernetalliance.org/events.

Media Contact
Rebecca B. Andersen
Pacific Bridge Marketing for Ethernet Alliance
RAndersen@PacificBridgeMarketing.com
+1.202.596.2652

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