



**News Release**

**March 23, 2005**

## **iBasis, NexTone & Yak join XConnect for North American launch**

**~ XConnect signs leading VoIP players to bring lower-cost calls to more people  
over its global 'plug & peer' Network ~**

XConnect, which interconnects Voice over Broadband operators (VoBBs) to provide free calls and rich IP multi-media services to more end users, has launched today in North America.

Its service makes interconnection between VoBBs as straightforward, secure and cost-effective as possible by overcoming the principal issues associated with VoIP peering, including numbering, interoperability and security\*.

As members of the XConnect Alliance, VoBBs can simply 'plug and peer' with other Alliance members over the XConnect Network to offer their customers free end-to-end VoIP calls to 100,000's more end users. By keeping calls on the Internet and bypassing the public switched telephone network (PSTN), VoBBs avoid termination charges and loss of VoIP call features.

Launching today in North America, XConnect has signed VoBB Yak Communications (NASDAQ: YAKC) as a founder Alliance member and top-ten carrier iBasis (OTCBB: IBAS) as a founder Carrier member. International XConnect Alliance founder members include leading European VoBBs such as Telio, VozTelecom and Gossiptel. XConnect is also partnering with NexTone Communications, the market leader in scalable session management of real-time IP services, to provide the first certified XConnect-Ready VoIP session border controller.

Eli Katz, founder and CEO at XConnect said: "XConnect's entry into one of the most dynamic markets for VoIP telephony will further speed the adoption of VoIP, by making its benefits available to more people. The XConnect Network brings the vision of an all-IP rival to the PSTN one step closer, where a rich array of multi-media IP services are delivered without legacy termination charges."



Charles Zwebner, CEO at Yak Communications said: “XConnect’s peering service is cutting edge. Our membership of the XConnect Alliance marks us as a pioneer in the delivery of services to North American VoIP users.”

Ofer Gneezy, president and CEO at iBasis said: “Millions of VoIP consumers benefit from completing their international calls through our global VoIP network today. This new relationship with XConnect expands our reach in connecting the fast-growing consumer VoIP services to each other and to the established PSTN and mobile networks around the world.”

Dan Dearing, vice president of marketing at NexTone said: “XConnect’s innovative service delivers on the promise of IP communications to supercede the PSTN. NexTone is pleased that its experience and flexibility in handling the diverse needs of carriers qualifies it as the first certified XConnect-Ready technology partner. NexTone-equipped VoBBs and carriers will enjoy greater partnership opportunities enabled by off-the-shelf interoperability with XConnect’s Network resulting in greater service reach and more value to their subscribers.”

#### **Notes to editors**

##### **\*About XConnect Global Networks**

XConnect is dedicated to connecting disparate IP communications entities, including next generation voice operators, enterprises, carriers and ASPs over its global Network.

The XConnect Network has PoPs in Europe and the USA and utilises innovative interconnection technology from Kayote Networks. It provides partners with the convenience of a single point of connection and the most direct route to as many IP endpoints and communications services as possible.

Its resilient infrastructure resolves the growing challenges of interconnection, including numbering (with an advanced carrier ENUM exchange), interoperability management (multi-protocol, multi-variant) and security/identity issues (including SPIT protection). XConnect is also the first to offer multilateral settlement-free interconnection through the XConnect Alliance.

XConnect is headquartered in London.  
[www.xconnect.net](http://www.xconnect.net)

Links:

Yak Communications: [www.yak.ca](http://www.yak.ca)

NexTone: [www.nexttone.com](http://www.nexttone.com)

iBasis: [www.ibasis.com](http://www.ibasis.com)

Kayote: [www.kayote.com](http://www.kayote.com)

Gossiptel: [www.gossiptel.com](http://www.gossiptel.com)

Telio: [www.telio.no](http://www.telio.no)

Voz Telecom: [www.voztele.com](http://www.voztele.com)

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