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Media Contacts:

Kevin Mitchell
Acme Packet
+1 781-328-4436
kmitchell@acmepacket.com

Rich Williams
Connect2 Communications
+1 919 554 3532
apbp@acmepacket.com

Dawn Orlinsky
XConnect
dorlinsky@xconnect.net
+1 201 674 1439

Acme Packet Certified as XConnect Ready™ Partner

Proven interoperability between Acme Packet Net-Net SBCs and the XConnect Network enables secure and rapid VoIP peering relationships

BOSTON, MA – FALL VON – SEPTEMBER 13, 2006 – Acme Packet®, the leader in session border control solutions, and XConnect, the world’s largest provider of “Plug and Peer” Voice over IP (VoIP) peering services and operator of the XConnect Alliance, today announced that Acme Packet Net-Net® session border controllers (SBCs) have been certified XConnect Ready™ having undergone interoperability testing based on SIP signaling and ENUM queries with the XConnect peering network.

Acme Packet SBCs have been certified with the XConnect network and ENUM registry to enable service providers to rapidly connect with proven interoperability to the XConnect Peering Federations such as the XConnect Alliance. By using Acme Packet’s Net-Net SBCs at their interconnect and peering borders while subscribing to XConnect’s peering services, operators can reduce the costs of terminating VoIP calls to millions of telephone numbers in the XConnect registry, as well as continue protecting their networks, assuring service quality and maximizing service reach.

“We welcome Acme Packet as a certified XConnect Ready solutions provider,” said Eli Katz, XConnect CEO. “Acme Packet customers can now experience rapid ‘Plug&Peer’ interconnects with the award winning XConnect Alliance and Federations, and take advantage of the commercial and operational benefits of multilateral VoIP peering.”

“Session border controllers and VoIP peering providers play a key role in keeping VoIP and IP interactive communication traffic on IP networks rather than transiting the PSTN,” said Seamus Hourihan, vice president marketing and product management at Acme Packet. “Given the proven interoperability as an XConnect Ready Partner, Acme Packet together with XConnect can help bridge VoIP islands in a rapid fashion and deliver secure, high quality and economical interconnects.”

XConnect enables feature-rich multi-media communication between VoIP service providers around the world by bypassing the PSTN and provides PSTN carriers and operators with an efficient and low-cost means to terminate calls destined for VoIP subscribers. The XConnect Alliance and Federations are carrier-neutral services that deliver complete interoperability, ENUM Directory Management and identity resolution in a secure environment for the interconnection of XConnect Members, which include voice over broadband providers, application service providers and VoIP carriers. The Certified XConnect Ready Partner Program is designed to create an ecosystem of pre-tested vendors and solutions to facilitate peering.

Acme Packet’s Net-Net SBCs support a broad range of communications applications at multiple network border points, providing key control functions in the areas of security, service reach maximization, service level agreement assurance, revenue and profit protection and regulatory compliance, while also supporting next-generation service architectures such as IMS. They are deployed extensively at both subscriber access borders and for IP interconnects at service providers around the world to enable end-to-end IP calls, PSTN origination and termination services and facilitate ASP services.

About Acme Packet

Acme Packet, the leader in session border control solutions, enables service providers to deliver trusted, first class interactive communications—voice, video and multimedia sessions—across IP network borders. Our Net-Net family has been selected by approximately 300 service providers, including 21 of the top 25 wireline and wireless providers in the world, to satisfy critical security, service assurance and regulatory requirements in wireline, cable and wireless networks. These deployments support multiple applications—from VoIP trunking to hosted enterprise and residential services; multiple protocols—SIP, H.323, MGCP/NCS and H.248; and multiple border points—interconnect, access network and data center. For more information, contact us at +1 781.328.4400, or visit www.acmepacket.com.

About XConnect Global Networks:

XConnect is the world's first and largest provider of 'Plug and Peer' VoIP federation-based interconnection services dedicated to connecting VoIP operators and enabling rich multi-media end to end IP communication. Headquartered in London with offices and facilities in USA, Europe and Asia, XConnect is the largest neutral VoIP peering provider for VoIP operators. XConnect’s award-winning solutions comprehensively address protocol interoperability, ENUM directory services, and security. With its strategic technical partner Kayote Networks Inc., XConnect provides ENUM and peering services to over 300 VoIP operators in more than 20 countries enabling IP calls between VoIP end-users. XConnect was recently selected by the cable industry in the Netherlands to operate the first nation-wide VoIP peering solution and recently acquired the European carrier ENUM exchange, e164.info. For more information, please visit www.xconnect.net.

XConnect was founded in 2004 by Eli Katz, also co-founder and chairman of the UK's Internet Telephony Service Providers' Association.

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