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## **MSF CHARTS COURSE FOR SECOND IN SERIES OF GLOBAL INTEROPERABILITY EVENTS**

### **Adds New Member, Board of Directors Elected**

**Fremont, Calif., April 28, 2003** – The Multiservice Switching Forum (MSF) announced today that it has made significant progress in planning its Global MSF Interoperability (GMI) 2004. GMI 2004 will be the second in a series of interoperability events conducted simultaneously in Europe, North America and Asia. The event will demonstrate a deployable and operationally ready IP telephony network with Network Management, enhanced Quality-of-Service (QoS) and security features. The Forum plans to unveil physical architecture scenarios for GMI 2004 later this year.

“I’m very proud of our Technical Committee’s work to date on GMI 2004,” said Roger Ward, MSF president. “While GMI 2002 showed that voice over packet networks could coexist with the PSTN – a key objective of GMI 2004 will be to demonstrate that carriers can run their existing voice services as well as innovative new multimedia services over packet based networks with a level of quality and reliability that meets or exceeds that of the PSTN.”

The MSF also announced the addition of North Texas-based managed services provider NG Technologies as a new member, increasing the diversity of the Forum’s membership roster. The new board of directors elected by the MSF membership to two-year terms includes Mark Carroll of Cisco Systems, Chris Daniel of Leapstone Systems, Brian Down of Marconi Communications, Ken Rambo of Qwest Communications and Roger Ward of BT. Rich Seager of NG Technologies and Avri Doria of ETRI were elected chair and vice chair, respectively, of the Technical Committee. Neil Anderson of Spirent Communications was elected chair of the Marketing, Awareness and Education (MAE) Committee and Scott Yagel was elected vice chair.

### **About Multiservice Switching Systems**

A Multiservice Switching System (MSS) is a distributed switching method – frame, cell or packet-based – designed to support voice, video, private line and data such as ATM, Frame Relay and Internet Protocol (IP) services. MSS may use a broad range of access technologies, including traditional Time Division Multiplexing (TDM), Digital Subscriber Line (xDSL), wireless data, and cable modems. MSF Implementation Agreements (IAs) define the requirements of the interfaces between components of a MSS.

### **About the MSF**

The Multiservice Switching Forum (MSF) is a global association of service providers and system suppliers committed to developing and promoting open-architecture, multiservice switching systems. Founded in 1998, the MSF is an open-membership organization comprised of the world's leading telecommunications companies. The MSF's activities include developing implementation agreements, promoting worldwide compatibility and interoperability, and encouraging input to appropriate national and international standards bodies. For more information about the MSF and its members, visit the MSF web site at <http://www.msforum.org>.

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