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***IP/MPLS Forum Announces Cisco is the First Vendor Certified
in its “MPLS in Mobile Backhaul Certification” Program***

Cisco successfully completes pilot phase of Forum’s certification program
focused on TDM Services over MPLS

PARIS, FRANCE – 10 February, 2009 — The IP/MPLS Forum announced today at the MPLS & Ethernet World Congress 2009 in Paris, France that Cisco Systems is the first vendor to have successfully completed the first phase of its MPLS in Mobile Backhaul certification program. Cisco submitted its 7600 series Edge router and 2941 Mobile Wireless router for testing, and both have passed the IP/MPLS Forum Abstract Test Suite for Time Division Multiplexing (TDM) Services over MPLS.

As announced in January 2009, the IP/MPLS Forum initiated the operator-backed certification program to certify standards-compliant implementations of TDM over MPLS as defined in the IP/MPLS Forum’s MPLS Mobile Backhaul Initiative (MMBI) which defines how MPLS can be used to backhaul TDM, ATM, and Ethernet traffic for mobile operators.

The certification program introduces a strict set of repeatable test procedures, and is being administered through the IP/MPLS Forum’s certified lab partner, Iometrix.

“We are pleased to have Cisco actively participating in these certification tests, and congratulate it in passing the rigorous testing,” stated Andrew G. Malis, Chairman and President of the IP/MPLS Forum. “As more and more vendors successfully complete this initial phase, mobile operators can begin deploying MPLS solutions in their backhaul networks with assurances of performance and interoperability.”

Phase one of the certification program is ongoing, and the Forum will be announcing other vendors who have passed the phase one testing around the time of the CTIA Wireless 2009 show in early April.

The Forum will also be conducting additional phases of testing in 2009 against the MMBI specification to certify both ATM and IP solutions over MPLS. This will ensure a broad range of application support for operators across various Radio Access Networks (RAN) architectures including GSM, UMTS, HSPA, CDMA2000, LTE, and WIMAX.

The IP/MPLS Forum MPLS in Mobile Backhaul Implementation (MMBI) for TDM over MPLS is complementary and aligned with the Metro Ethernet Forum recommendation (MEF8) for TDM Services over Ethernet.

“The tests Iometrix is conducting on behalf of the Forum address the industry's pressing demand for standards-compliant implementations of TDM Services over MPLS,” said Bob Mandeville, President of Iometrix. “This suite of tests executed on an innovative test bed built to guarantee accuracy and repeatability focuses on encapsulation and synchronization in line with the stringent requirements of mobile operators worldwide.”

About the IP/MPLS Forum

The IP/MPLS Forum is an international, non-profit association of service providers, equipment vendors, testing centers and enterprise users. The Forum's mission is to drive the global success of IP/MPLS-based technology, networks, and services, while focusing on application and deployment solutions. The Forum is driving network solutions based on IP/MPLS technologies in the global telecom industry through technical specifications, educational and marketing resources, and certification and interoperability programs. For Forum membership information please contact Alysia Johnson, Executive Director, at (510) 492-4057 or via e-mail at ajohnson@ipmplsforum.org. Additional information about the IP/MPLS Forum is available online at <http://www.ipmplsforum.org>.

Additional Background for Editors:

Mobile backhaul networks have historically utilized TDM- or ATM-based backhaul facilities to support revenue-generating and mission-critical services which are delay- and loss-sensitive that require a high level of network availability. Today's Mobile Backhaul networks must support these legacy services while also supporting the high-growth in demand for data services and bandwidth by today's mobile subscribers.

To meet these evolutionary requirements of operators, the IP/MPLS Forum's MPLS Mobile Backhaul Initiative (MMBI), which was announced last year, proposes a general framework for MPLS and Ethernet technology to transport RAN backhaul traffic over access, aggregation and core networks. The Forum released a technical specification during 4Q08 which provides a

specific framework and set of requirements for the use of MPLS in the mobile wireless access and aggregation networks across various RAN interfaces and technologies (eg: GSM, UMTS, LTE, CDMA2000, mobile WiMAX, HSPA, etc.)

A copy of the technical specification can be downloaded from <http://www.ipmplsforum.org/tech/IPMPLSForum20.0.0.pdf> . Additional information on the forum's MMBI work can be found here: <http://www.ipmplsforum.org/tech/IPMPLSBackhaulWhitePaper.pdf>.

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