



***MPLS and Carrier Ethernet:
Service - Connect - Transport***

**PUBLIC MPLS & ETHERNET INTEROPERABILITY EVENT
ORGANIZED BY EANTC SHOWCASED AT
*MPLS & ETHERNET WORLD CONGRESS 2009 IN PARIS***

Berlin, February 10, 2009. EANTC AG (European Advanced Networking Test Center) announced the participation of 15 leading vendors in the Interoperability Showcase at the MPLS & Ethernet World Congress today. The showcase provides network operators with an in-depth view into the latest advances in MPLS and Ethernet based solutions.

Alcatel-Lucent, Brocade Communications, Calnex Solutions, Celtro, Corrigent Systems, Ericsson, Huawei Technologies, Ixia, MRV Communications, NEC Corporation, RAD Data Communications, Redback Networks - an Ericsson Company, Spirent Communications, Telco Systems - a BATM Company, and UTStarcom participated with more than 75 devices in the 2-week hot staging event at EANTC's lab in Berlin, Germany, in January 2009.

As mobile backhaul networks are migrating to packet-based solutions, offering much improved cost efficiency and scalability, operators are concerned about maintaining precise clock synchronization. The Precision Time Protocol (IEEE 1588-2008) and Synchronous Ethernet were tested as a viable solutions for clock synchronization of mobile base stations.

Service providers need to monitor network performance in order to prove their customers the quality of their services, and thus meeting the stipulated Service Level Agreements (SLA). EANTC successfully tested multi-vendor interoperability of Ethernet Operation, Administration and Maintenance (OAM) Performance Monitoring (ITU-T Y.1731) to verify the service availability, latency, jitter and any packet loss continuously in service.

In the MPLS test area several advances have been made. IPv6 support in MPLS networks has recently received increased interest from several large service providers, specifically in relationship with next-generation mobile phones, and was verified during the event. In addition we successfully tested the current options in MPLS inter-carrier connectivity. We also provided a platform to vendors who have already started to implement early MPLS-TP specifications and saw innovative solutions to OAM mechanisms.

“The level of innovation even at our 7th MPLS interoperability event is reassuring. In some areas, we see steady improvements – like in inter-carrier interconnectivity and OAM –, sometimes big steps as in new IETF-defined transport protocols and mobile backhaul,” said *Carsten Rossenhoevel, Managing Director at EANTC*. “In an increasingly advanced and complex technology area, service providers expect a high level of multi-vendor interoperability. A lot of experience is gained in the realistic end-to-end network scenarios constructed during our interoperability tests.”

A 16-page white paper with detailed test results is available for download from <http://www.eantc.com/mplsewc2009>.

About EANTC

The European Advanced Networking Test Center (EANTC) offers vendor-neutral consultancy and test facilities for network equipment manufacturers, service providers and enterprise customers. Primary business areas include interoperability, conformance, and performance testing for Carrier Ethernet, IP/MPLS, and Triple Play technologies and applications. For more information contact Carsten Rossenhoevel, Managing Director, at +49.30.3180595-0 or via e-mail at cross@eantc.com.

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