White Rock Networks™
Creating evolutionary optical networks with revolutionary technology™

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Meeting Metro Bandwidth Demands: White Rock Networks Introduces Industry's Smallest, Smartest OC-192 SONET Multiplexer

DALLAS, Texas – May 18, 2001 – Responding to escalating bandwidth demands in the metro market, White Rock Networks has developed the industry's smallest, smartest OC-192 Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) add/drop multiplexer (ADM) that allows carriers to cost-effectively and efficiently deploy enhanced services.

The VLX2020™ is the fourth member of White Rock's family of modular, scalable and stackable "building-block" optical networking products. The VLX2020's reduced footprint helps trim the costs carriers now pay to lease space in central offices, while its power consumption reduces carriers' energy expenses. The system allows carriers to support a wide range of services from OC-48 to DS3.

The new White Rock multiplexer maintains fully protected, carrier-class functionality, including Network Equipment Building Standards (NEBS) Level 3 compliance. Requiring just two rack units of space, the new VLX2020 stands only 3.5 inches tall – one-fifth the size of the smallest competitive OC-192 multiplexers.

Each of White Rock's low-cost, low-power, easy-to-implement building blocks allows carriers to offer enhanced services to customers, without modifying existing network architectures or management systems. Carriers add only the White Rock building blocks that provide the capabilities they need for a specific application or customer. In addition, White Rocks' standards-based control plane gives carriers end-to-end circuit provisioning in seconds instead of hours/days/weeks, and with a minimum of labor.

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"The VLX2020 is the second example of White Rock's focus and approach to the metro optical market. We're fundamentally trying to build best-of-breed transport products that fit into existing carrier networks rather than networks that they don't have yet. Our OC-48 SONET add/drop multiplexer VLX2010™ and the VLX2020 – our new OC-192 SONET ADM – are solid evidence that SONET technology can be significantly improved in cost, size, power and intelligence to the benefit of our carrier customers," said Lonnie Martin, White Rock's founder and chief executive officer.

"The key to this is in our building-block approach. Many of our competitors have chosen to integrate several technologies and functions into a single platform. Instead, we've disintegrated the single platform into multiple, discrete-function products that can more easily be designed to best-of-breed price/performance. Our latest example, the VLX2020, will as a result substantially reduce OC-192 deployment costs in the Metro over current solutions."

Each of White Rock's main building blocks can work independently or with other family members. White Rock's VLX2010 OC-48 SONET ADM, which was introduced at Optical Fiber Communication Conference 2001, and the new VLX2020 both feature the same scalable architecture.

"White Rock's announcement of its VLX2020 is another demonstration of the supplier's sensible overall product strategy of concentrating on the clear-cut, present requirements of service providers," said Mark Lutkowitz, vice president of optical networking research at Communications Industry Researchers, an optical consulting firm.

White Rock will be exhibiting June 5-7, 2001 at SUPERCOMM 2001 in Atlanta, Georgia (Booth #474D in the Georgia Dome).

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About White Rock Networks

White Rock Networks provides carriers with a family of next-generation optical transport systems that enable the cost-effective delivery of high-speed services in metro areas. The company's innovative building-block architecture provides carriers with "step-function" improvements in their capital and operating costs, as well as deployment flexibility in serving a variety of metro customers. The company's website is www.whiterocknetworks.com.

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