

**OPTINEL SYSTEMS AND MINTERA CORPORATION
TEAM IN SUCCESSFUL DEMONSTRATION OF
40 GIGABITS PER SECOND TRANSPORT**

***Optinel's PLEXiS™ Platform and Mintera's MI 40000 Solution Exceed
Industry Requirements Demonstrating 40 GB/s Gigabit Ethernet Transport***

ELKRIDGE, MD; LOWELL, MA. – July 21, 2004 – Optinel Systems, a privately held provider of optical Ethernet transport solutions for regional, metro and access applications, and Mintera Corporation, a leading provider of next-generation 40 Gigabits per second (GB/s) fiber optic transport equipment, today announced the successful interoperability of their products in demonstrating bandwidth scalability to 40 GB/s per wavelength in a Gigabit Ethernet network.

The companies integrated Optinel's PLEXiS™ GX Series 10 GB/s and CRYSTAL™ Network Management System with Mintera's MI 40000 Transport Solution, effectively creating bi-directional, high capacity fiber optic links able to carry up to 40 GB/s Ethernet traffic on a single wavelength over distances exceeding 180 km without any intermediate optical amplification.

“Optinel's PLEXiS platform is an ideal, proven solution for today's high-bandwidth network requirements, providing granular scalability from one to ten GB/s per wavelength.” said Irl Duling, chief scientist for Optinel Systems. “This successful 40 GB/s interoperability demonstrates a reliable method to accommodate future growth on existing network infrastructures with minimal capital investment. The ability to offer service providers a cost-effective, rapidly-deployable pathway to additional capacity is key to managing ever-expanding network demands.”

“Through this demonstration of next generation optical transport with Optinel, we're able to show again that our equipment works seamlessly within existing networks,” said Terry Unter, Mintera president and chief executive officer. “The MI 40000, with its variety of client side interfaces including 10 Gigabit Ethernet, will allow video service providers to gain a significant bandwidth boost from their installed infrastructure. This will facilitate the deployment of new, high bandwidth services such as video-on-demand, without the need for major infrastructure investments.”

Optinel's PLEXiS suite of products represents the latest technology available for network transport, capable of economically supporting from less than one GB/s to over 400 GB/s per fiber over distances of greater than 500km. A variety of transmitter, receiver and transceiver products provide 1, 2.5 or 10 GB/s per wavelength of unidirectional or bidirectional capacity per wavelength, allowing a perfect balance between high network capacity and granular scalability. A highly flexible optical platform, scalable to 44 wavelengths, cost-effectively supports a wide variety of network configurations, ranging from simple point-to-point links to fully-protected, multi-service ring or star topologies. Coupled with Optinel's CRYSTAL™ Network Management System, the PLEXiS

products enable the deployment of highly reliable, cost effective networking solutions for converged-services applications.

Mintera's MI 40000 carrier class product family is unique in permitting service providers to deploy 40 GB/s optical transport cost-effectively in a number of applications including: metro-core, regional, long-haul and ultra long-haul. The self-managed system is designed to integrate rapidly and simply into existing network infrastructures thus enabling a bandwidth boost to be obtained at the same time as facilitating the deployment of bandwidth-intensive services.

About Mintera Corporation

Mintera is the technology leader enabling migration to 40 GB/s optical transport in metro-core, regional, long-haul, and Ultra Long-Haul networks. Mintera's flexible multi-service 40 GB/s product-set enables service providers to upgrade their existing infrastructure to 40 GB/s in an evolutionary and seamless fashion.

About Optinel Systems

Based in Elkridge, MD, Optinel Systems (www.optinel.com) is an independent provider of cost-effective broadband regional and metro optical transport systems specifically developed for cable operators. Optinel builds highly scalable, flexible and cost effective optical Gigabit Ethernet transport systems that provide increased network performance, lower operating costs, and enable new revenue opportunities, including Video-on-Demand (VOD), high definition television, high-speed Internet access, and cable telephony (VoIP) for broadband cable service providers.