

Westell Announces its Participation in ADTRAN's Total Access Partner Program

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Westell to develop products for Total Access, a high-density, multiple

services deployment platform

AURORA, III., June 10 /PRNewswire/ -- Westell Technologies, Inc. (Nasdaq: WSTL) today announced that it is the first vendor to join the Total Access Partner Program (TAPP), a development partnership between ADTRAN, Westell and other vendors.

TAPP is a cooperative venture between leading Telecom equipment manufacturers to develop products for Total Access, a high-density, multiple services deployment platform. Total Access is designed using a modular, multi-vendor architecture that makes it possible for a single platform to support multiple digital services using components from a range of manufacturers.

"With Total Access, Telco service providers can select from a broad spectrum of transport technologies and services, using plug-in units developed by a variety of manufacturers," said George Wagner, Westell Vice President, Telco Access Products Marketing. "We are excited by the capabilities of the Total Access system and proud to be part of the development partnership with ADTRAN that is bringing this system to market."

"No one company can provide broad expertise in all areas of local loop transport technology. What has been needed, and is now available as a result of the TAPP venture, is a single loop access platform where several companies bring their expertise together in a unified architecture," concluded Wagner.

Total Access can deliver local loop services at rates from 56 Kbps to more than 6 Mbps, and is the only system that effectively supports either combination of DS1 and DS3 or DS1 and SONET network interfaces. The system is fully manageable, fully redundant and both UL and NEBS compliant. As one of the most compact multi-service platforms in the industry, it can be installed in either a telephone company central office or remote hut. The chassis is only 6 inches tall, 12 inches deep, and mounts in a standard 23-inch wide bay. Multiple systems can be combined in a 7-foot bay to support more than 200 HDSL/T1 rate interfaces.

Plug-in modules will initially be available for HDSL, T1, Optical DS2 and integral DS3 multiplexing, with future modules to span the range of local loop digital services. The Total Access system, including the system controller unit and first series of digital-service access modules, will be available later this year.

"We are pleased to announce Westell's support in furthering the Total Access platform," said Tom Stanton, ADTRAN Vice President of Telco Marketing. "Westell represents the advanced technology, 'best of breed' strategy that is at the heart of the Total Access architecture. By building a multi-service deployment platform that accepts modules from numerous vendors, we are offering customers a highly flexible solution that engenders competitive pricing and top-of-the-line technologies."

The Total Access system is scheduled for initial availability in August 1998 with T1, HDSL and fiber optic loop facility capabilities. Future capabilities and features are scheduled for introduction throughout 1998 and 1999.

Established in 1985, ADTRAN is a leading provider of total system solutions for delivering today's digital transmission technologies over existing telecommunications infrastructures. ADTRAN also designs and Page 1 of 2 © 2018 Factiva, Inc. All rights reserved.

manufactures products for private end-users in the customer premise equipment (CPE) market. For more information, contact the company at 800-326-3700 or via e-mail at info@adtran.com. On the web, go to www.adtran.com.

Westell Technologies is a holding company for Westell, Inc., Conference Plus, Inc. and Westell WorldWide Services, Inc. Westell, Inc. is a leading world-wide innovator and manufacturer telecommunications access products and xDSL systems, with corporate headquarters in Aurora, Ill. Conference Plus, Inc. is a multi-point telecommunications service bureau specializing in audio teleconferencing, multi-point video conferencing, broadcast fax, and multimedia teleconference services. Westell WorldWide Services Inc. provides engineering, installation and network management services to leading network providers as well as turnkey equipment and service solutions to enterprise customers and service providers. Additional information can be obtained by visiting Westell's Web site at http://www.westell.com.

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