



XEL Communications To Develop Module For ADTRAN's Total Access Platform

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HUNTSVILLE, Ala.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--June 10, 1998--

XEL joins Total Access Partner Program (TAPP) in support of

ADTRAN's high-density, multiple services deployment platform

ADTRAN, Inc. (NASDAQ: ADTN), a leader in high-speed digital communications products, announced today that XEL Communications, Inc. has joined the Total Access Partner Program (TAPP) and plans to develop access module for ADTRAN's new multiple services deployment platform.

A cooperative venture between leading telecom equipment manufacturers, TAPP will make it easy for manufacturers to build access modules for Total Access, the high-density central office and field services platform from ADTRAN.

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. Access modules will initially be available for HDSL, ISDN, 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.

Raymond Winkler, senior vice president of business development for XEL, said the company will develop a family of voice access modules for the total access platform.

"The Total Access platform is a highly flexible, central office platform that accepts components from a variety of leading communications vendors," said Tom Stanton, ADTRAN vice president of Telco marketing. "We're pleased that XEL Communications, a leading supplier of telecom equipment, will participate in the program and plans to develop products for Total Access."

"The Total Access approach represents an important step in the telecom industry that lets RBOCs, independent Telcos and others select modules from a range of top vendors and bring them together in a single, central office platform," said XEL's Ray Winkler. "This means Telcos have greater flexibility to plan their networks and will be better able to provide the kinds of services that their customers want most."

Based in Aurora, CO, XEL Communications, Inc. designs and manufactures data and voice transmission and access equipment for the telecommunications industry. Those products incorporate a variety of enhanced functions and time-saving features, including self-diagnosis and auto-alignment. XEL serves a diverse customer base ranging from Regional Bell Operating Companies, independent telephone companies, and competitive access providers to CATV companies, utilities, and wireless communications suppliers.

Other TAPP participants include Westell Technologies of Aurora, IL and Hekimian Laboratories, Inc. of Rockville, MD, and more are scheduled to be announced in coming weeks. To ensure interoperability, access modules and complementary components will be tested at the ADTRAN Total Access certification facility in Huntsville, Alabama.

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 1,000 ISDN Basic Rate, or 200 HDSL/T1 rate interfaces.

About ADTRAN

Established in 1985, ADTRAN is a leading provider of total system solutions for delivering today's digital transmission technologies over existing telecommunications infrastructures. The company is best-known for developing cost-effective, high-performance equipment that transforms copper wire local loops into high-speed digital networks. The ISO 9001 company is a top supplier of DDS, ISDN, Frame Relay, T1/FT1 and HDSL products. ADTRAN customers include the Regional Bell Operating Companies (RBOCs) and many of the more than 1,300 independent Telcos in the United States. ADTRAN also designs and manufactures products for private end-users in the customer premises equipment (CPE) market.

For more information, contact the company at 1-800-326-3700 or via email at info@adtran.com. On the web, visit www.adtran.com.

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