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Volume 7, Issue 5
May 28, 2004

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CENIC News

President's Message

As many of you know, I will leave my post as President and Chief Executive Office of CENIC effective June 30, 2004. I am accepting the full-time responsibility as Chief Executive Officer of National LambdaRail, Inc. for a two-year period.

For the past year, I have split my responsibilities between the two organizations thanks to the willingness of both boards which permitted me to do this dual assignment. However, we all realized that if NLR got off the ground it would need full-time leadership. That time has arrived.

CENIC has very capable leadership in Jim Dolgonas and a supporting staff that is quite capable of carrying on without me. In fact, for the past few months, I have become consumed with the growing needs of NLR and have seen Jim and others fill my roles in CENIC.

The past five years and four months have been a delight for me. The support of the Board and the strength of the supporting staff have made this a truly wonderful experience. As I tell my brother, CENIC has been an avocation for which I have gotten paid.

As many of you know, when I take on a new job I usually do not move offices. NLR will sublet space and administrative support from CENIC. So while I will be gone from CENIC, I will still be around.

Thanks again for giving me this wonderful professional experience.

Source: Tom West, CENIC

CalREN Optical Network Deployment Update

There is good news about the K-12 migration. 100% of the DCP node sites formerly connected to the legacy 4CNet backbone have been migrated to the new CENIC optical backbone. All that remains is some clean-up work and a couple of new node site installations.

Presently, 19 of the 23 CSU campuses have been migrated to the new CalREN-DC backbone, and it is anticipated that all of the CSU campuses will migrate their data connections by the end of June.

69% of the California Community College (CCC) sites have migrated to CalREN-DC. Several CCC sites are in various stages of acceptance testing with cutovers to be scheduled in the near future. The balance of the CCC sites are awaiting completion of carrier construction work or infrastructure upgrades before high speed circuits can be installed. Based on the current schedule and target due dates, it appears that we will be able to provide CalREN-DC connectivity to another seven to ten CCC sites by the end of June.

Source: Edwin Smith, CENIC

Register Today for July One Gigabit or Bust Roundtable

The third One Gigabit or Bust Roundtable Workshop is scheduled for July 21-22, 2004 at the Hilton Oakland Airport. The Roundtable is open to all persons interested in pursuing next generation broadband in California.

Roundtable meetings are organized around topical task forces, covering topics ranging from rural issues to entertainment issues. More information about current task forces can be found at <http://www.cenic.org/GB/taskforces/index.htm>.

To register for the July Workshop, go to <http://www.cenic.org/GB/meetings/72104/index.htm>. CENIC has contracted with the Hilton for discounted lodging. To take advantage of the discounted rates, reservations must be made by June 30, 2004. For more information on lodging, visit <http://www.cenic.org/GB/meetings/72104/lodging.htm>.

Senate & Assembly Budget Subcommittees Include DCP Funding

On Wednesday, May 19th, both the Senate and Assembly Budget Subcommittees on Education approved the \$21 million proposed in the Governor's 2004-05 budget to continue high speed, high bandwidth network access for K-12 schools.

The Senate Budget Subcommittee on Education took action to include the \$21 million for "High Speed Internet2" after the committee staff had recommended deletion of the funds in keeping with the Legislative Analyst's recommendation to delete funding for the program. Senator John Vasconcellos (D-Santa Clara) advocated for continuing connectivity and said that it is essential for kids and teachers to have access to the high speed high bandwidth network because in today's world, access equals opportunity.

On the Assembly side, the Budget Subcommittee on Education discussed the funding for the third time this year. Assembly Member Jackie Goldberg (D-Los Angeles), chair of the Assembly Education committee and a former school board member from Los Angeles Unified School District, forcefully led the fight for inclusion of the full \$21 million. Assembly Member Lynn Daucher, (R-Brea) a former school board member from Brea Olinda Unified School District and also a teacher, seconded the motion leading to a 6-0 vote. The subcommittee chair, Assemblyman Joe Simitian (D-Palo Alto), also spoke in support of continuing the program and expressed his intent to pursue legislation next year that would begin to define the state's overall vision for the use of technology in education.

The numerous letters, faxes, emails, phone calls and personal visits by educators on this budget item were critical to the success of the effort.

National Networking News

NLR Announces Lighting of National Optical Infrastructure Path Between Washington, D.C. and Atlanta

National LambdaRail, Inc. (NLR), a consortium of leading U.S. research universities and private sector technology companies, today announced that it has successfully lit the optical-network path between Washington, D.C., and Atlanta, Ga., giving the D.C., Raleigh, N.C., and Atlanta regions access to the national NLR network infrastructure. The path completes the route between Atlanta, D.C., Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Chicago.

The deployment began in January with Cisco Systems, Inc. installing dense wavelength division multiplexing (DWDM) extended long-haul platforms approximately every 100 kilometers on intercity dark fiber NLR purchased from Level 3 Communications, Inc. (Nasdaq:LVL3). Meeting the target completion date on April 16, Cisco deployed eight 10 Gbps Ethernet lambdas for NLR along the 766 fiber miles (1532 strand miles) between Washington, D.C. and Atlanta. Overall, the system supports expansions up to 40 10 Gbps lambdas.

Source: NLR-News, <http://www.nlr.net/20040512-PR>

DARPA Funds Joint Industrial-Academic Effort to Develop Advanced Optical Packet Router Technologies

Agility Communications, Calient Networks, Cisco Systems, JDS Uniphase and Stanford University team up with UC Santa Barbara.

A team of researchers in industry and higher education, led by a group at the University of California, Santa Barbara, has been awarded major financial support by the Defense Advanced Research Project Agency's Microsystems Technologies Office to develop new technologies to advance optical router capacity far beyond the current state of the art. The team has been awarded \$6.3 million for the first phase of its research, with optional phases that raise the total to \$15.8 million.

Source: UC Santa Barbara, <http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/release/Display.aspx?PKey=1136>

Email Communication: Automated Messages Enhance School-Family Relationship

The No Child Left Behind Act has put even greater pressure on the nation's schools to perform. Automated messages have helped thousands of school systems across the country meet the law's strict parental notification requirements by providing a unique way to communicate in a timely and efficient manner.

Automated communications have solved communication challenges for schools and districts by distributing an almost unlimited pipeline of school and student information to parents. Communication with parents has been shown to improve attendance, and studies show that increased attendance improves student performance. Many schools have learned how to use automated messages to increase attendance, achievement, student safety and overall parent satisfaction dramatically.

Source: eSchoolNews, <http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStory.cfm?ArticleID=4978>

Center for Commercialization of Advanced Technology (CCAT)

For 2004-05, CCAT has planned three solicitations for new technologies with applications in homeland security, crisis/consequence management and other national priorities and two follow-on award competitions. Thirteen broad focus areas are available for research. Academia, industry and government laboratories may submit applications under the three solicitations. The follow-on award competitions are reserved by invitation to existing CCAT clients for supplemental commercialization support and services. Applications from academia and industry are due Aug. 11, 2004; applications from government laboratories may be submitted at any time. More information is available at: <http://www.ccatsandiego.org/solicitation.shtml>

Source: CCAT

Wi-Fi Users Vulnerable to Hackers at DIA, Elsewhere

James Allen made a quick e-mail check using his laptop and a wireless Internet "hot spot" at Denver International Airport.

Little did he know that anyone online at the same AT&T Wireless station could have learned his cellphone number, Social Security number and Visa card number. A 9News investigative team got it all.

Source: Denver Post, <http://www.denverpost.com/Stories/0,1413,36-33-2147134,00.html>

Bluetooth Group Downplays Security Risks

The Bluetooth Special Interest Group (SIG) is dismissing security fears about the technology, saying any flaws in it are limited to a small number of mobile phones -- although it has detailed measures that concerned users can take to secure a wide range of Bluetooth devices.

Bluetooth is primarily a short-range wireless technology that operates in the same 2.4-GHz frequency band as wireless LANs. It's used as cordless replacement to connect a wide range of devices, such as mobile phones, to each other in a process known as "pairing" and can also serve as the link between a phone or handheld computer and Bluetooth wireless printers.

Source: Network World Fusion, <http://www.nwfusion.com/news/2004/0511bluetgroup.html>

SBC Excelsior Technology Grants Program

The SBC Foundation is accepting applications for funding under the SBC Excelsior technology grants program. This program seeks to fund projects that build the technology infrastructure of nonprofits, enabling them to increase their organizational effectiveness or service delivery capability. Examples of qualifying projects include expanding or enhancing Internet access, data networking, online outreach, increasing staff technology capacity, and pooled technology resources. Approximately \$9 million is available for one-year grants, which typically range from \$2,500 to \$25,000. Collaborations by two or more organizations will be considered for grants of up to \$50,000. To be eligible, organizations must have an emphasis in education, community development, health and human services, or arts and culture. Applications are due Aug. 13, 2004. More information is available at: http://fdncenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml;sessionId=3Q2BQZIOUNVRSP5QALRSGXD5AAAACI2F?id=68100006

Source: The Foundation Center, <http://www.fdncenter.org/>

Automated Regional Justice Information System (ARJIS) Satellite Technology Enhancement Project

California Space Authority (CSA) conducted three demonstrations of the use of satellite technology for law enforcement. These demonstrations illustrated how satellite communications can serve as back-up and fill-in to cellular-based communications, particularly as it relates to our Homeland Security efforts. CSA identified the San Diego-based Automated Regional Justice Information System (ARJIS) as a law enforcement program that could be enhanced with space technology, access to Field Interview data, and a technology study to identify future enhancement opportunities.

Source: California Space Authority, <http://www.californiaspaceauthority.org/news0403/pg-3.html>

About CENIC

CENIC is a not-for-profit corporation serving California Institute of Technology, California State University, Stanford University, University of California, University of Southern California, California Community Colleges and the statewide K-12 school system.

CENIC's mission is to facilitate and coordinate the development, deployment and operation of a set of robust multi-tiered advanced network services for this research and education community.

More information about CENIC can be found at <http://www.cenic.org>.

Subscription Information

You can subscribe and unsubscribe to CENIC Today via the web at: <http://lists.cenic.org/mailman/listinfo/cenic-today>

Keep track of the Digital California Project and the One Gigabit or Bust Initiative by visiting the CENIC publications page or by subscribing directly to the publications. Visit <http://www.cenic.org/pubs/> for more information.

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Last Update: December 14, 2004