



Harmonic Enables Next Wave of On-Demand Services with Integrated Narrowcast Transport Solution

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New GIGALight(TM) System Delivering Full 10 Gigabits Per Wavelength is Optimized for Video Services

Harmonic Inc. (Nasdaq:HLIT) today introduced the GIGALight(TM) GTA 9100 Digital Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing (DWDM) transmission system to cost-effectively increase the scalability and capacity of IP-based narrowcast networks. The system can transmit up to 40 wavelengths per fiber over long distances, with each wavelength delivering 10 Gigabits per second (Gbps). The GTA 9100 is optimized for video-over-IP transport to yield greater flexibility in the design, implementation and expansion of networks as they are readied for the next wave of on-demand service deployments. GIGALight -- which is fully integrated with Harmonic's industry-leading Narrowcast Services Gateway(TM) IP-enabled edgeQAM device -- is now managed by NMX Digital Service Manager(TM) to make Harmonic's award-winning narrowcast transport and distribution solution even more compelling.

As competition between broadband service providers continues to intensify, new services are being rolled-out to fulfill the promise of a comprehensive video, voice and data triple play. The broad deployment and adoption of video-on-demand is expected to substantially increase bandwidth consumption at all levels of the network. Bandwidth requirements will be further multiplied as high definition television becomes pervasive, making pay-as-you-grow network expansion -- such as that enabled by GIGALight -- essential to an operator's long-term success.

"Raw capacity is certainly important for the next wave of on-demand service deployments, however, network flexibility and manageability are equally crucial considerations," said Fernando Amendola, Transport Solutions Product Marketing Manager at Harmonic Inc. "The GTA 9100 efficiently carries high volumes of IP narrowcast traffic over long distances, without the cost and complexity associated with SONET/SDH, ATM and other similar networking technologies. One- and two-way versions of the system can be deployed to optimize the network architecture according to the bandwidth characteristics of the service portfolio. In addition, integration with Harmonic's NMX Digital Service Manager allows an operator to monitor and manage the entire narrowcast service environment as a single entity, including headend, IP-based video transport and edgeQAM systems."

The GIGALight GTA 9100 builds on Harmonic's wavelength division multiplexing (WDM) technology and expertise base -- established through nearly a decade of innovation in both digital and analog WDM transport for the forward and return paths -- to increase capacity in two ways. First, the new GTA 9100 scales to 40 wavelengths, 25 percent more than the existing GTR 9000. Second, each wavelength provides a full 10 Gbps of bandwidth, representing at least 20 percent more capacity than the commonly used SONET/SDH-based approach. As a result, cable operators can support more service groups as well as deliver more targeted capacity to each service group. With aggregate bandwidth of 400 Gbps, the GTA 9100 could simultaneously transport nearly 120,000 DVD-quality on-demand video streams from a centralized video server farm to the network's edge.

Housed in a compact single rack unit (RU) package, the GTA 9100 multiplexes up to ten 1-Gbps streams -- via any combination of CAT-5 and fiber interfaces -- into 10 Gbps of downstream capacity. Both the new GTA 9100 and existing GTR 9000 systems can be deployed within the same network, allowing operators to preserve their existing investment in the 1-Gbps systems, as they expand their network reach and capacity. To complement the scalable DWDM transmission system Harmonic offers the GIGALight HOA 9023, a 1-RU high powered optical amplifier, to further extend the reach of the transport infrastructure and support a variety of redundancy topologies.

The entire Harmonic-based on-demand infrastructure -- from the headend servers through the Narrowcast Services Gateways located at the network's edge -- can be managed and monitored as a single entity by Harmonic's NMX Digital Service Manager. NMX gives operators a unique real-time view of network and system level usage and performance that can be used to redirect capacity where it is needed most.

About Harmonic Inc.

Harmonic Inc. is a leading provider of digital video, broadband optical networking and IP delivery systems to cable, satellite, telecom and broadcast network operators. Harmonic's open standards-based solutions for the headend through the last mile enable customers to develop new revenue sources and a competitive advantage by offering powerful interactive video, voice and data services such as video-on-demand, high definition digital television, telephony and Internet access.

Harmonic (Nasdaq:HLIT) is headquartered in Sunnyvale, California with R&D, sales and system integration centers worldwide. The Company's customers, including many of the world's largest communications providers, deliver services in virtually every country. Visit www.harmonicinc.com for more information.

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27(A) of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21(E) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, including statements related to: the next wave of on-demand service deployments, intensifying competition between broadband service providers, expectations of substantial increases in bandwidth consumption, further multiplication of bandwidth requirements, and a number of expected benefits of the GIGALight 9100 DWDM transmission system.

Our expectations and beliefs regarding these matters may not materialize, and actual results could differ materially from those projected. The forward-looking statements contained in this press release are also subject to other risks and uncertainties, including those more fully described in Harmonic's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission including its Annual Report filed on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003. Harmonic does not undertake to update any forward-looking statements.

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