



Airspan Deploys WipLL Network in Afghanistan

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BOCA RATON, Fla., Dec 23, 2004 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Airspan Networks, Inc. (**AIRN**), a leading worldwide provider of broadband wireless access networks, including WiMAX standard systems, today announced the completion of the sale of a WipLL-based broadband data network to Neda Telecommunications of Kabul, Afghanistan.

Neda Telecommunications is the first and the largest ISP in Afghanistan, with a solid and rapidly growing customer base providing reliable broadband wireless "last mile" solutions for the NGO, business and residential communities. The company is a subsidiary of Aspen Wind Corporation, a US-based trade and finance company with offices in New York, London and Moscow.

Under its contract with Neda, Airspan has delivered base stations and related subscriber packet radios for deployment in Kabul. Airspan has also provided AS3030 for the network backbone. The AS3030 is a high-performance OFDM-based broadband wireless system designed to provide point-to-point operation. It will be used in the Neda network to relay bandwidth throughout Kabul's highly mountainous terrain to provide a complete service throughout the city.

Neda is using the WipLL network to supply high speed Internet access services from 64Kbits - 2Mbits, capable of delivering video conferencing solutions, e-mail and web browsing solutions, host FTP/web server solutions and live newscast feed solutions for the NGO, business and residential markets in Kabul. The equipment is operating in the 2.7-2.9Ghz band, frequencies for which Neda has exclusive radio license rights across the whole of Afghanistan.

Charles Tryon, chief executive officer of Neda, said: "We are very pleased to have been able to deploy Airspan solutions in our network in Afghanistan. Airspan was very quick to provide us with a solution in our licensed frequencies, allowing us to expand the network in time to meet the rapidly growing demand in Kabul for broadband services from the growing private business and government sectors. The flexibility designed into the system allows us to meet their diverse voice, data and video needs on one platform, and the reliability of the network provides a quality of service unmatched in the country."

According to Henrik Smith Petersen, Airspan's President Asia Pacific, the transaction is expected to be the initial step in Neda's rollout of broadband Internet and voice services in other major cities in Afghanistan. "We believe that with Airspan's quality wireless products we can branch out throughout Afghanistan and bring the Internet to the remaining four major cities, capitalizing on our strong growth since the change of government."

Airspan's WipLL platform is a low-cost high-performance Fixed Wireless Access system designed to deliver high-speed data, Voice over IP (VoIP) and multimedia services to residential, small business and enterprise customers. WipLL is capable of delivering burst data speeds of up to 4 Mbps (3.2Mbps net) to each customer. WipLL introduces real-time adaptive modulation (2-, 4-, 8-level FSK) and auto retransmission request (ARQ); features that offer high quality services whilst maximizing spectrum utilization. WipLL is available in both licensed bands (700 MHz, 2.5GHz, 2.7-2.9GHz and 3.4-3.8GHz) and unlicensed bands (900MHz, 2.4GHz and 5.8GHz).

About Neda Telecommunications

In January 2003, Neda Telecommunications Company, a part of Neda Holding, became the first official license holder from the Ministry of Communications of Afghanistan, established as an Internet Provider with emphasis on Internet Systems Solutions. Today, Neda Telecommunications Company is well established in Kabul and other major cities of Afghanistan, expanding its reach to smaller areas. Being an undisputable leader among existing ISPs in Afghanistan, with top of the range equipment and facilities and a qualified responsive team of professionals, Neda Telecommunications Company provides high quality Internet services to hundreds of business and personal subscribers.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.neda.af/>

About Airspan Networks Inc.

Airspan Networks provides wireless voice and data systems and solutions, including Voice Over IP (VoIP), to both licensed and unlicensed operators around the world in frequency bands between 700 MHz and 6 GHz, including both PCS and 3.5GHz international bands. Airspan has a strong product evolution roadmap that includes offerings compliant with the new 802.16-2004 standard, and with built-in 802.16e capability. Airspan is on the Board and a founder member of the WiMAX Forum. The Company has deployments with more than 200 operators in more than 70 countries. Airspan's systems are based on radio technology that delivers excellent area coverage, high security and resistance to fading. Airspan's systems can be deployed rapidly and cost effectively, providing an attractive alternative to traditional wired communications networks. Airspan also offers radio planning, network installation, integration, training and support services to facilitate the deployment and operation of its systems. Airspan is headquartered in Boca Raton, Florida with its main operations center in Uxbridge, United Kingdom.

More information on Airspan can be found at <http://www.airspan.com>

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, including statements regarding our strategy, future operations, financial position, future revenues, projected costs, prospects, plans and objectives of management, may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. The words "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "expects," "intends," "may," "plans," "projects," "will," "would" and similar expressions or negative variations thereof are intended to identify forward-looking statements, although not all forward-looking statements contain these identifying words. We may not actually achieve the plans, intentions or expectations disclosed in our forward-looking statements and you should not place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements. There are a number of important factors that could cause actual results or events to differ materially from the plans, intentions and expectations disclosed in the forward-looking statements we make. Investors and others are therefore cautioned that a variety of factors, including certain risks, may affect our business and cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking statements. These risk factors include, without limitation, (i) a slowdown of expenditures by communication service providers; (ii) increased competition from alternative communication systems; (iii) the failure of our existing or prospective customers to purchase products as projected; (iv) our inability to successfully implement cost reduction or containment programs; (v) a loss of any of our key customers; (vi) our ability to retain our single largest existing customer; (vii) our ability to continue to sell the existing inventory of Nortel Network's fixed wireless business on purchase terms and conditions comparable to those currently utilized, and (viii) specific to this press release, Airspan's ability to successfully produce and distribute its WipLL product in the 2.7-2.9GHz frequency; Neda's ability to deploy the networks sold and to sell services on the networks and to pay for the equipment. The Company is also subject to the risks and uncertainties described in its filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003. You should read those factors as being applicable to all related forward-looking statements wherever they appear in this press release. We do not assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statements.

SOURCE: Airspan Networks, Inc.

Airspan Networks, Inc., Boca Raton
Peter Aronstam, 561-893-8682, Fax 561-893-8671
paronstam@airspan.com

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