

**Contact:** 

Keith Kidd President, NTAF 703.886.5358 keith.e.kidd@verizon.com Julianne Fitzpatrick Executive Director, NTAF 510.492.4029 jfitzpatrick@ntaforum.org

New Industry Forum - Network Test Automation Forum - Advocates Collaboration and Interoperability of Vendor Test Tools

Network Test Automation Forum (NTAF) Promotes Customer-Centric, Device-Agnostic Testing Framework to Drive Productivity and Accelerate Product Development

Fremont, Calif. – March 16, 2010 – Leading companies from across the communications and networking industries including BreakingPoint Systems, BT, Cisco, Empirix, Ericsson, EXFO, Fanfare Software, Ixia, JDSU, Spirent Communications, and Verizon today announced that they have joined forces to form the Network Test Automation Forum (NTAF), <a href="www.ntaforum.org">www.ntaforum.org</a>, a global effort designed to promote interoperability between test tools and to simplify lab automation efforts. With representation from service providers, network equipment manufacturers and test & measurement vendors, NTAF advocates a customer-centric, device-agnostic framework that reduces time, complexity, and cost of product test cycles.

NTAF represents a fundamental shift from the stand-alone and proprietary approaches to an open lab automation approach. The forum asks test equipment vendors to collaborate with their customers to define an open and advanced automation framework. Through the agreement and adoption of multi-vendor technical architectures for test automation systems, test engineers and lab managers will benefit from accelerated deployment of next generation network products and services.

"Our goal is to provide complete transparency in the Forum's activities and ensure a level playing field for all members." said Keith Kidd, president of NTAF. "By encouraging industry wide participation, NTAF is working toward establishing

interoperable testing solutions for service providers, network equipment manufacturers, and other enterprise organizations with large network deployments."

## **About Network Test Automation Forum (NTAF)**

The Network Test Automation Forum brings together users, vendors, and other telecommunications and data communications industry experts for the purpose of creating interoperable testing solutions for service providers, network equipment manufacturers, and other enterprise organizations with large network deployments.

NTAF is professionally managed by Association Management Solutions (AMS). For over a decade, AMS has provided leading technology groups, associations and standards bodies with a powerful combination of experience, dedicated staff, internal technology development, event services and strategic marketing resources to meet its clients, goals. Some of AMS' clients include: Broadband Forum, IETF, Optical Internetworking Forum (OIF), MultiService Forum (MSF) and the Gaming Standards Association (GSA).