DQE Communications Selects Ekinops
to Deliver Wavelength Service Offering

PARIS, June 9, 2016 – DQE Communications, a business network services provider in western Pennsylvania, has launched a wavelength service option for its customers using equipment from Ekinops.

Pittsburgh-based DQE Communications offers metro Ethernet, wavelength, high-speed Internet services, dark fiber and colocation services for a broad range of businesses in the region.

The company, a subsidiary of Duquesne Light Holdings, operates a 2,700-route-mile fiber-optic network serving 11 counties around Pittsburgh. That network serves 1,140 on-net buildings, 33 business parks, 15 data centers and multiple hub sites.

DQE Communications chose Ekinops, a leading supplier of next-generation optical network equipment, to enable its new wavelength service offering at a broad range of speeds.

What DQE Communications sought was a cost-effective solution that could be implemented quickly and that would enable easy expansion in response to customer bandwidth demand and business growth. Ekinops provided the solution in the form of a 40-channel reconfigurable optical add-drop multiplexer-based system.

The Ekinops equipment allows DQE Communications to offer wavelength services in any increment from 1 gigabit per second to 200 Gbps, allowing the company to meet the versatile needs of businesses of any size.

"What impressed us about Ekinops beyond their equipment was that they were genuinely interested in developing a partnership with DQE, not just selling us a solution. We plan to leverage that partnership to help us meet the ever-growing demands of our customers," said Jim Morozzi, President & CEO of DQE Communications.

"Our high-performance, programmable and SDN-compatible Layer 1 transport system based on Ekinops' unique embedded technology will provide additional efficiencies for DQE Communications and simplify their expansion as they grow," noted Didier Brédy, CEO of Ekinops. "This will allow them to continue to offer their business customers the best in secure, reliable and flexible network services."

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About DQE Communications

Headquartered in Pittsburgh's Southside Works development, DQE Communications is one of the leading providers of high-speed fiber-optic data networking for businesses throughout the western Pennsylvania region. The company's network of fiber-optic cables spans thousands of miles throughout Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Blair, Butler, Greene, Indiana, Mercer, Somerset, Washington and Westmoreland counties. Already in hundreds of commercial buildings in the region, DQE Communications is continually working to expand its network through 100% customized and secure metro Ethernet, wavelength, dark fiber, internet and colocation services. DQE Communications is an affiliate of Duquesne Light, an electric energy provider to Western Pennsylvania for more than 100 years. DQE began as a small part of the company's overall business, but since its founding 15 years ago, has grown to be an important part of the corporation. In 2015, DQE Communications was named to the *Pittsburgh Business Times* "2015 Pittsburgh 100," a compilation of the fastest growing private companies in the region. DQE maintains a core principle of customer service and reliability, with a cultural mindset of - your network can't just work some of the time, it has to work all of the time. For more information, visit DQECOM.com

About Ekinops

Ekinops is a leading supplier of next generation optical transport equipment for telecommunications service providers. The Ekinops 360 addresses Metro, Regional, and Long-Haul applications with a single, highly-integrated platform. Ekinops is a market-leading innovator in 100G and 200G transport with a coherent line of products that truly optimizes optical networks and comes in 1RU, 2RU or 7RU chassis. The Ekinops 360 relies on the highly-programmable Ekinops T-Chip® (Transport-on-a-Chip) architecture that enables fast, flexible and cost-effective delivery of new services for high-speed, high-capacity transport. Using the Ekinops 360 carrier-grade system, operators can simply increase capacity of their networks – CWDM, DWDM, Ethernet, ESCON, Fibre Channel, SONET/SDH, and uncompressed video (HD-SDI, SD-SDI, ASI). Ekinops is headquartered in Lannion, France, and Ekinops Corp., a wholly-owned subsidiary, is incorporated in the USA.

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For more information, visit **www.ekinops.net**