

PRESS RELEASE

Afone Turns to Ekinops for Data Center Interconnection, Assuring Reliable Delivery of Multiprotocol Services

PARIS, June 12, 2012 – Afone, a French-based provider of telecom services to businesses, has deployed equipment from <u>Ekinops</u>, a leading supplier of next-generation optical transport equipment for service providers, to interconnect its data centers and enhance its delivery of multiprotocol data services.

Afone focuses on telecom, payment, and security services for enterprises and retail businesses, and also functions as a mobile virtual network operator (MVNO) for enterprises and residential customers. It turned to Ekinops for a solution that would provide flexible, cost-effective, and reliable data center interconnection transporting SDH, Gigabit Ethernet, and Fibre Channel protocols.

The Ekinops 360 transport platform, with its <u>T-Chip</u> (Transport on a Chip) technology, allows Afone to transport multiple protocols very efficiently, maximizing the use of fiber infrastructure.

The Ekinops 360 provides industry-leading economic efficiencies unmatched by other transport solutions in the market. In addition, the Ekinops 360 provides for a level of reliability far exceeding similar solutions.

"Ekinops is the company best suited to meet our needs. The Ekinops 360 gives us the flexibility we need to aggregate different protocols, it is economical and has the highest reliability," said Guillaume Rousseau, head of engineering at Afone. "Support is very important to us and Ekinops promised and delivers superior support."

"Today, the increasing migration to cloud-based services has elevated data centers to paramount importance for service providers such as Afone," said Rob Adams, vice president of marketing for Ekinops. "The competitive cloud computing market requires moving massive volumes of data among these centers, with the utmost reliability and affordability.

"The Ekinops equipment that is now filling Afone's needs does so cost-effectively because of the uniqu

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e Ekinops T-Chip technology. The T-Chip concentrates the equipment's transport intelligence into a highly compact and efficient design that Ekinops can custom-program to meet the precise needs of the service provider customer. This approach serves to reduce costs, footprint, ongoing power consumption, and delivery times to customers."

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 transport with its unique all-in-1RU° approach that truly optimizes optical networks. The Ekinops 360 system relies on the highly-programmable Ekinops T-Chip° (Transport-on-a-Chip) that enables fast, flexible and cost-effective delivery of new services for high-speed 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. For more information, visit Ekinops at www.ekinops.net.

Media Contact

Dominique Arestan Marketing Communications Director

Voice: +33 (0)1 49 97 04 03 Mobile: +33 (0)6 42 10 95 05 darestan@ekinops.net