

## **Harris Consortium to Develop Global Network For The World Health Organization**

The World Health Organization (WHO) has selected a consortium led by Harris Corporation to install and operate a new global telecommunications backbone network to more effectively manage its worldwide health initiatives. The WHO Global Private Network (GPN) will become operational in late 1999, providing video conferencing, voice, and data communications via satellite and terrestrial links between WHO's headquarters in Geneva and six regional offices around the world. Joining Harris in the consortium are Ericsson, Tele Danmark, and N.E.T.

Harris, through its Maritime Communication Services (MCS) subsidiary, was awarded the contract from WHO following an extensive competitive selection process. As prime contractor, Harris is responsible for the design, installation, and commissioning of the network, and will manage the network's operations from the Harris MCS Network Management Center in Melbourne, Florida (USA). Swedish-based Ericsson is furnishing engineering support and network equipment at all site locations, and the physical hub of the network will be located at Tele Danmark facilities in Denmark, including the multi-point video conference unit. The N.E.T. Promina 800 Series Multiservice Access Platform is at the heart of the network, and will ensure the efficient allocation of network bandwidth between the various video conferencing, voice, and data applications.

Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, WHO is a specialized agency of the United Nations that promotes technical cooperation for health among nations and carries out programs to control and eradicate disease. The new network will enhance WHO's communications among headquarters and its widely dispersed regional offices in Washington D.C., Copenhagen, New Delhi, Manila, Alexandria, and Harare.

"Award of the Global Private network represents an important achievement for Harris as we build on our longstanding history of providing reliable and affordable telecommunication services to the World Health Organization and other members of the United Nations family" says Dr. Andrew Clark, President of Harris Maritime Communication Services. "By joining forces with industry leaders Tele Danmark, Ericsson, and N.E.T., Harris will be providing a robust worldwide communication network as WHO enters the twenty-first century."

"We were pleased to be part of the partnership arrangement that will make this very dynamic network possible. WHO can benefit from the economies of single-platform delivery of multiple services," said Jean-Pierre Breton, responsible for Networking Integration Solutions at Ericsson Switzerland.

"N.E.T.'s Promina platform was the right technical, as well as financial, solution for the World Health Organization," said Berend Haber, vice president of International at N.E.T. "But this wasn't simply a product win. This was a solution sell that was heavily dependent on partnership. Together with Harris, Ericsson Switzerland, and Tele Danmark, we came up with the winning combination."

### **About The Partnership**

Harris MCS provides global telecommunication service solutions to customers on land and at sea, around the world.

Harris Corporation (NYSE: HRS) is an international communications company focused on product, system, and service solutions that take its customers to the next level. The company provides a wide range of products and services for commercial and government communications markets such as wireless, broadcast, government, and network support. The company has sales and service facilities in nearly 90 countries.

With more than 100,000 employees in 140 countries, Ericsson is a leading provider of communications solutions that combine telecom and datacom technologies with freedom of mobility for the user.

Tele Danmark, the Danish public telecommunications carrier with annual sales of more than \$5 billion is a dominant carrier in the Scandinavian communications market and has operations in 11 European countries.

N.E.T. (NYSE: NWK) is a leading worldwide supplier of multiservice wide area networks used by service providers, government organizations and enterprises in more than 75 countries. N.E.T. multiservice WAN-s and ATM products integrate voice, data, and video traffic with ATM, frame relay, IP and ISDN capabilities.

The four companies have various partnership agreements or relationships and have worked together on numerous projects separately. However, this is the first teaming of all four entities for a single effort.

# # #

N.E.T. is a trademark, and Promina and the N.E.T. logo are registered trademarks of Network Equipment Technologies, Inc.

# # #

For additional information contact Mark Russo @ Harris Corporation at [markrusso@harriscorp.com](mailto:markrusso@harriscorp.com)