

Nextera Communications Builds Big Pipes for Multi-line Voice and Data to Broadband-Starved Businesses Using Aperto's WiMAX

Suburban Minneapolis deployment leverages high upstream capability and low latency of 802.16d WiMAX to meet the business case

MILPITAS, CA.: Sept. 9, 2009. Nextera Communications, a Minnesota-based broadband provider, has selected Aperto Network's PacketMAX technology to build a regional wireless broadband network in the 3.65 GHz licensed frequency. Nextera is focusing on multi-line voice and T1+ speed services to commercial customers who have limited cost-effective competitive options currently. The version of PacketMAX selected is optimized to support large upstream capacity needs while still meeting advanced QoS demands of enterprise customers.

Nextera offers multiple services, included bundled multi-line voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) and advanced data services. "Our sweet spot is capacity-starved businesses that are otherwise forced into expensive plans just to get a megabit or two of service, but these customers have multiple power users on their connections and they are making calls while working online," commented Nextera CEO Greg Arvig. "We had to select a technology with proven QoS credentials and low latency, especially with our voice centric customer set. Aperto's WiMAX-certified 802.16d-based PacketMAX is the answer for us."

PacketMAX can deliver real data rates in excess of 20 Mb/s per sector, with the flexibility to allocate the capacity either symmetrically (50/50) or asymmetrically to as much as 70/30 percent upload to download or vice versa. The system implements a patent-pending advanced scheduler, which improves QoS. The version of PacketMAX selected by Nextera leverages the 3.65 GHz fixed wireless frequency band and the fixed WiMAX standard of 802.16d to reduce network latency, overhead and especially costs associated with mobile-centric features of 802.16e-based WiMAX. "Nextera understands that there is a right tool for the job and choosing the wrong tool would have real revenue consequences," noted Brian Deutsch, CEO of Aperto Networks. "PacketMAX enables approximately 35% lower latency than 802.16e-based systems, which is a big deal with multi-line voice services. PacketMAX was also a natural choice, since it does not force providers to pay for features that can never be used in 3.65 GHz."

PacketMAX also offers a powerful network management platform with advanced features for real-time monitoring and control of all network elements. PacketMAX consists of high performance, carrier-class base stations and a broad family of cost-effective subscriber units. PacketMAX subscriber units are co-developed with and contract manufactured by Tranzeo Wireless Technologies (TSX:TZT).

About NEXTERA COMMUNICATIONS

Nextera Communications delivers a portfiolio of leading edge digital networking, telecom and data services to small, mid-sized and enterprise businesses throughout Minnesota and into adjacent states. Nextera also delivers traditional local and long distance voice services. This

support of both traditional and digital era services uniquely enables Nextera customers to migrate from their current networking and telecom systems to the next generation of highly cost effective digital solutions on their own schedule. The company is a single point of contact for its entire portfio of services and proud of its local customer service, including web-based account management tools and a primary point-of contact for real-time, personal customer care. The company is privately held. For more information about Nextera Communications, please visit www.nextera.net.

About APERTO

Aperto Networks helps service providers worldwide profitably deliver affordable wireless voice and broadband services by building the world's most advanced fixed and mobile WiMAX Forum Certified base stations and subscriber units. Aperto fundamentally changes the economics of delivering voice and broadband services through IP-rich, point-to-point and point-to-multipoint networks, allowing carriers to offer a wider variety of services to more customers using less equipment. Its carrier-grade WiMAX technology offers industry-leading subscriber density, quality of service, ease of use, and reliability. Aperto is a founding board member of the WiMAX Forum, as well as a founder and lead contributor to IEEE 802.16 and the ETSI-BRAN standards. Serving more than 400 customers in 90 countries, Aperto Networks is based in Milpitas, California. For more information, visit us at <u>www.apertonet.com</u>.