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FORCE10 NETWORKS CHIEF SCIENTIST EXPLORES IMPACT OF NEXT GENERATION ETHERNET STANDARD ON THE NETWORK

SAN JOSE, Calif., September 12, 2007 – The long predicted and oft discussed convergence of transport technologies appears to be closer at hand as the IEEE Higher Speed Study Group (HSSG) begins to pursue the development of a next generation Ethernet standard, said Force10 Networks® Chief Scientist and Vice President of Technology Joel Goergen at the sixth annual Ethernet World conference in Shanghai.

“The efficiency and scalability Ethernet inherently provides make it primed to become the technology of choice upon which the network will standardize, especially as the propagation of bandwidth-intensive applications continues,” said Goergen. “It is these high bandwidth applications that promise to change how we do business, and the network must be optimized through new higher speed standards to support them.”

In July, the HSSG agreed to pursue a single standard that will delineate Ethernet at both 40 Gbps and 100 Gbps. The 100 Gbps component of the standard will be designed for networking and aggregation applications to accommodate the growing traffic created by bandwidth-intensive applications such as video. The 40 Gbps designation will serve computing applications and will accommodate an expected increase in server processing power. Together, the two speeds provide the way forward for Ethernet technology to more efficiently enable business as it increasingly depends on the network.

“The Higher Speed Study Group’s decision to pursue both 40 and 100 Gbps in a single standard ensures that both computing and networking applications are well served by the next generation of Ethernet technology,” Goergen continued. “It is this greater availability of bandwidth capacity within the network that will enable the evolution of applications that further increase worker collaboration, responsiveness and productivity.”

About Force10 Networks

Force10 Networks is the pioneer in building and securing reliable networks. Based on a revolutionary system architecture that delivers best-in-class resiliency and massive scalability, Force10's TeraScale E-Series switch/routers ensure predictable application performance, increase network availability, and reduce operating costs. Today, many of the world's largest Gigabit Ethernet and 10 Gigabit Ethernet networks depend on Force10 Networks. For additional information, please visit www.force10networks.com.

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