



SUNET and NORDUnet participates in test of first ever native 40 Gbit/sec transatlantic IP link; 9600 km between Luleå, Sweden and New York.

NOVEMBER 24, 2008 – SUNET [www.sunet.se] - the national Research and Education network of Sweden and NORDUnet [www.nordu.net] - the pan-Nordic R&E network, continues to demonstrate their leadership among R&E networks in Europe. Since the beginning of 2007, the two networks has been running various trials and production services with 40 Gbit/s, and is now taking another step to gain experience with high speed long haul IP connections.

SUNET has provided Sprint with a 40 Gbit/s transmission channel over its existing backbone infrastructure between Stockholm and Luleå (close to the Arctic Circle), as part of the record-breaking 40 Gbit/s transatlantic trial [see, <http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/081121/20081121005708.html>]. In total, this circuit spans more than 9.600 km of fiber distance, and most notably includes a 7.630 km segment of the transatlantic TAT-14 cable system. This is the first time ever that an OC768/STM256 signal has been transmitted over a submarine cable system using a single wavelength.

To further test the transatlantic link, Sprint offered SUNET and NORDUnet the possibility to use the link for their research IP traffic. "Together with SUNET, we were able put a significant amount of traffic on this new link" says Per Nihlén, IP manager of NORDUnet. He continues: "This milestone is another important step towards the future of international 40 Gbit/s networking, and we're very pleased with the latest advancements".

Börje Josefsson, CTO of SUNET says: "This was a great opportunity for SUNET to leverage it's expertise from implementing several 40 Gbit/s internal and external connections in the past years. The research communities in the Nordic region are constantly moving forward, and their need for bandwidth is always growing, so what Sprint and the TAT-14 consortium now have demonstrated is very promising for the future. For the years to come, networking at 100Gbit/s and beyond will be our focus. I would like to congratulate Sprint's IP-engineering project team, lead by Peter Löthberg, to their milestone achievement and them giving us the opportunity to participate in this test. Also thanks to TeliaSonera, who operates the TAT-14 landing station in Denmark, for support and the optical backhaul for the router-generated 40Gbit signal."

About SUNET:

SUNET, the Swedish University Computer Network, has served the Swedish universities for more than 25 years. All Swedish universities and some 85 other organizations closely related to research and education, in total more than 400,000 users, are using the services of SUNET. SUNET provides its users with high-speed and extremely reliable data communication connections and other services.

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About NORDUnet:

NORDUnet is an international collaboration between the Nordic national networks for research and education. NORDUnet interconnects these networks and connects them to the worldwide network for research and education and to the general purpose Internet. In addition to the basic Internet service NORDUnet operates and provides key infrastructure services to the research & networking community.

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