Yellowknife Scores a First for Broadband Wireless Access: SSI Micro and Inuk Introduce New Internet Service, a First in Canada

YELLOWKNIFE, Northwest Territories--The promise of broadband wireless access today becomes reality for Yellowknife, as the community becomes the site of the first Canadian launch of new wireless Internet technology.

Starting today, customers in Yellowknife will be able to purchase high-speed Internet services from SSI Micro Ltd., one of the largest Internet service providers in Canada's North. The network that supports this new service is operated by Inukshuk Internet Inc., a Canadian wireless communications company. The launch delivers to the area a new level of connectivity and access to information, services and business opportunities.

"This is a real boost for consumers and businesses in the North," said Jeff Philipp, President and CEO of SSI Micro. "We are delighted to be working with Inukshuk to bring the new service to Yellowknife, and we see this as a landmark. We're offering the community a dynamic new way to communicate, to learn and to do business with each other and with the rest of the world."

"This is exciting news for everyone involved," added Andre Tremblay, President and CEO, Inukshuk Internet Inc. "We are committed to the success of this launch, which will allow for a new form of high quality, high-speed Internet service. Broadband wireless access can foster opportunities and overcome the barriers of distance for Canada's North. We are very pleased to be working with SSI Micro to deliver our vision of connecting Canadians in all parts of the country."

For residential, SOHO (Small Office Home Office) and small business customers, there is now the chance to enjoy the advantages of reliable, high-speed Internet service, which is made particularly attractive by its ease of use and the added feature of "nomadicity." Customers receive a wireless modem - a discreet box known as customer premises equipment (CPE) - which they can simply 'plug-and-play', self-installed and hassle-free! With nomadicity, the CPE can also be moved as readily as a laptop computer to function anywhere within the Yellowknife network footprint.

As for the services themselves, the network will fully support a broad range of high-speed and feature-rich applications that are increasingly essential, such as distance learning and video conferencing.
conferencing. The network equipment and CPE are supplied by NextNet Wireless, a leading broadband wireless equipment manufacturer.

About SSI Micro Ltd.

Based in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, SSI Micro Ltd. is a leading provider of telecommunications services. The company has extensive experience in many areas of local, municipal and wide area networking and is well-known for its expertise in rural and remote connectivity. Since 1990, it has been providing leading edge technology services and solutions across Canada and internationally.

The company is also one of the largest Internet Service Providers (ISP) in the North, providing Internet services and support in several communities across the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, the Yukon and Northern Quebec.

About Inukshuk Internet

Inukshuk Internet Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Microcell Telecommunications Inc. (TSX: MT), a Canadian provider of Personal Communications Services (PCS) under the Fido(R) brand name.

Inukshuk Internet was granted licences from Industry Canada for Multipoint Communications Services (MCS) spectrum in the 2500 to 2596 MHz frequency band, to build a unique, "last mile" broadband wireless access network. The licences cover a population of some 30 million people, comprising all the provinces and territories of Canada, with the exception of Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

In Yellowknife, Inukshuk Internet operates as a wholesaler and works with retailer SSI Micro to bring the services to market. On November 19, 2003, Inukshuk announced that it had also formed a new venture with Allstream Inc. and NR Communications to further expedite and extend MCS network deployment.


Fido is a registered trademark of Microcell Solutions Inc.

SSI Micro Ryan Walker, 867-669-7500 ryan_walker@ssimicro.com
or Microcell Telecommunications Claire Fiset, 514-992-1368
claire.fiset@microcell.ca or Rebecca Catley, 604-601-1088 rebecca.catley@microcell.ca
