

**CERN awards FLAG Telecom landmark Gigabit Ethernet contract****FLAG to provide High Availability Global Service for Worldwide  
Research to CERN & TIFR**

**Mumbai, September 12, 2007:** FLAG Telecom, a wholly owned subsidiary of Reliance Communications, today announced a landmark deal with CERN (**Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire**), the European Organisation for Nuclear Research. FLAG would provide Gigabit Ethernet connectivity between CERN's research centre in Geneva, Switzerland and the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) in Mumbai, India.

Explaining the significance of the deal, **Mr. Punit Garg, President FLAG Telecom** said, "It's very pleasing to win this business from such a reputable organization. We have long since been developing our Ethernet service across our global network and firmly believe it to be the cornerstone of next generation networks. The global Ethernet market is predicted to swell to \$25 billion by 2010 and we are intensifying our focus on addressing it. Our vast experience as a global cable operator has taught us the importance of absolute quality. The recent acquisition of Yipes demonstrates our commitment to innovation and addressing our customers changing needs".

This announcement gels well with FLAG's recent intentions of deploying a Next Generation Network (NGN), known as the Global Service Delivery Platform. The connectivity component of this strategy is global Ethernet; Moreover, FLAG is well poised to become the market leader for global carrier grade bandwidth over its Global Service Delivery Platform.

CERN's requirement is of a solution that delivers uninterrupted, best-in-class, flexible high bandwidth capacity allowing its Indian partner, TIFR, access to the enormous data volumes generated by CERN's particle experiments program in Geneva, Switzerland. FLAG's Global Ethernet service addressed all of CERN's needs.

David Foster, Head of Networking and Communications Systems at CERN, explained why CERN opted for FLAG's Global Ethernet: "This is an important milestone showing how large-scale scientific projects like the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), being built at CERN, unify communities worldwide. The substantially increased connectivity provided by FLAG will enable the TIFR to fully collaborate as part of the Worldwide LHC Computing Grid (WLCG). This grid involves over 150 institutes around the globe in the storage and analysis of petabytes of scientific data."

FLAG's global network and customer base with Yipes's state-of-the-art Ethernet capabilities combined with parent Reliance Communications' vast Indian based communications abilities, has created an unmatched, cutting-edge proposition for carriers and enterprises alike.

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**About FLAG Telecom**

FLAG Telecom, a wholly owned subsidiary of Reliance Communications, owns and operates the world's largest private undersea cable system spanning 65,000 route kilometers and four continents. FLAG has an established customer base of more than 200 leading services providers, content providers and channel partners.

This extensive network serves as a Global Service Delivery Platform connecting 37 key business markets in India, the Middle East, Asia, Europe, and the USA through an overlay low-latency, global MPLS-based IP network. FLAG offers a focused range of products, including Managed Bandwidth, IP VPN, IP Transit, Global Ethernet and Co-location services.

FLAG's Global Ethernet service is a fundamental enabler of its Global Service Delivery Platform, providing a next generation multi-service wide-area-network (WAN) to transport Voice, Video and Data traffic reliably, conveniently and economically to global destinations using Ethernet technology.

For more information please visit [www.flagtelecom.com](http://www.flagtelecom.com)

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