

## **Telecom Egypt selects Ericsson to build Internet Access Network**

**By placing a turn-key order for a Multiservice Access Network with Ericsson, Telecom Egypt has become the first operator to take a step towards transitioning Egypt's existing telephony infrastructure from circuit-switched to a packet-based voice and data network. Ericsson's Tigris MultiService Access Platform will off-load data traffic from Egypt's telephone network and enables Telecom Egypt to provide easier, faster and better Internet access for its end-users.**

The Tigris MultiService Access Platform, part of Ericsson's Integrated Access System, will enable Telecom Egypt to communicate directly with the Internet, without relying on other go-between networks for transport. Ericsson's Tigris MultiService Access Platform is a carrier-class multiservice platform optimised for high-density, high-performance and fault-tolerant network access for both fixed and mobile service providers.

"Over the years Ericsson and Telecom Egypt have developed a trusted partnership," said Johan Gyllensward, President and General Manager of Ericsson Egypt Ltd. "With more than 500,000 Internet users and a total of two million expected by the end of 2001, Egypt has proven to be one of the fastest growing markets in the Middle East and Africa. Ericsson is committed to helping Telecom Egypt quickly evolve its network to meet the increasing market demands and is already planning to complete installation within the next few weeks."

Under the frame of a cooperation agreement signed in 1999, "Telecom Egypt Highway," Ericsson received an order from Telecom Egypt for the supply of Tigris MultiService Access Platforms to off-load the rapidly increasing Internet traffic from the Telephony Network in the Cairo Metropolitan area. As early as November 1999, a field trial for Ericsson's Tigris MultiService Access Platform was deployed in the Telecom Egypt network and proved to be a very successful solution.

"Telecom Egypt, earlier than any other operators in the region, has realized the fast development in the new Telecoms world, and specifically in the Egyptian network, towards the converged voice/data networks, and the advanced Internet Supplementary Services", states Eng. Gamal Shehata, Vice Chairman for Planning & Information, Telecom Egypt.

Ericsson's Tigris MultiService Access Platform's high scalability and modularity will allow Telecom Egypt to expand according to network needs. In addition, it will make use of the richest feature set and applications in the industry, including dial-in/wireless/dedicated/broadband access and Call-by-Call & Virtual Port Service Manager software enabling Telecom Egypt to expand their addressable market for new revenue generation opportunities.

"Ericsson is the first vendor to supply MultiService Access products to Telecom Egypt," stated Gyllensward. "By winning this order for Egypt's largest Operator, Ericsson has once again established itself as the leading provider of communication solutions for next generation migration networks."

*Ericsson is the leading communications supplier, combining innovation in mobility and Internet in creating the new era of mobile Internet. Ericsson provides total solutions covering everything from systems and applications to mobile phones and other communications tools. With more than 100,000 employees in 140 countries, Ericsson simplifies communications for customers all over the world.*

Read more at <http://www.ericsson.com/pressroom>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

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#### *ABOUT EGYPT TELECOM*

Telecom Egypt, (Arento in the past) was established 1918 as the Egyptian Telegraph and telephone Administration, since that time a great progress in telecommunication Networks has been achieved and within the last two decades, Telecom Egypt adapted an ambitious plan to review and develop the switching and transmission network facilities. Read more at: [www.telecomegypt.com.eg](http://www.telecomegypt.com.eg)