Ericsson signs ENGINE contract in Brazil

With its latest ENGINE contract on the Latin American market, Ericsson will upgrade Brazilian operator Sercomtel's network into a multi-service network, enabling Sercomtel to offer a wide range of communication services based on the fixed network. The order value is USD 5.5 million.

"Sercomtel has been a partner for Ericsson for a number of years and has always being a leader in adopting new technologies," says Paulo Castelo Blanco, Vice President of Technology and Products, Ericsson Brazil. "It was the first operator in the Brazilian interior to provide cellular services and the first Brazilian operator to have an all-digital wireline network, all provided by Ericsson. This ENGINE contract is a further proof of Sercomtel's commitment to Ericsson as well as to future-oriented technology and solutions."

Ericsson's ENGINE Bridgehead Solution will upgrade Sercomtel's entire network to a next-generation network. One AXD301 will be added to the main AXE exchange and the other three exchanges will be connected to another AXD301 (Media Gateway).

The contract also includes the installation of ADSL and ISDN lines that brings high-speed Internet and other broadband-related services, such as distance learning and video conferencing, to the end-users in the cities of Londrina.

"We are extremely pleased to adopt the state of the art in network concept, a concept that only now is beginning to be deployed in the most developed operators in the world," says Rubens Pavan, President of Sercomtel. "We are very confident that, by offering modern services, Sercomtel is also contributing to improve the level of satisfaction of its subscribers."

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.se/pressroom

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

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About ENGINE

In January 1999 Ericsson was the world's first vendor to receive a substantial order for a next generation network circuit-to-packet migration solution for British Telecom's national network. Ericsson was also the first supplier in February 2000 to announce live service on a circuit-to-packet network with Telefónica in Spain.

Ericsson's vision for future networks is a new type of robust, multi-service network infrastructure designed for real-time services; a network able to carry large and growing volumes of IP-based traffic, and to cope with the interconnection requirements of deregulated and competitive telecom environments.

Ericsson has created ENGINE. ENGINE is Ericsson's global multi-service network offering for operators of fixed networks. The scope of ENGINE includes broadband access solutions, packet backbone network solutions, communication services solutions, applications and hosting solutions and management solutions. The technologies used in this architecture - and the structure itself - are fully optimized to secure the highest possible service levels and achieve the lowest operational costs, bringing the highest possible revenue opportunities for operators.

A key part of ENGINE is the professional services offering for operators, Ericsson's consultancy approach from initial business plan to implementation to network and business optimization.

To learn more about Ericsson's ENGINE, visit <u>http://www.ericsson.com/engine</u>