Status Report on JPNAP Osaka

Leading Commercial IX in the Kansai Area, Exchanging Gigabit-Level Traffic

TOKYO -- INTERNET MULTIFEED CO. (MFEED; Head Office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President and CEO: Koichi Suzuki) began providing JPNAP Osaka service in January 2002, as the first Gigabit-class Internet Exchange (IX) service in Western Japan. More than 10 networks now connect through the service, with traffic(*) having surpassed the Gigabit mark to reach 1.6 Gbps. In these and other ways, JPNAP Osaka ranks as a leading national-class commercial IX service in the Western Japan area.

MFEED started JPNAP Osaka with the cooperation of NTT SmartConnect Corporation (NTT-SmC; headquarters: Kita-ku, Osaka; president: Akitoshi Ito)(**), responding to the growing concentration of Internet traffic in the Tokyo area, as Internet traffic has increased rapidly with the continuing trend toward provision of broadband access networks. Located in the NTT Telepark Dojima Dai-ichi Building and Dai-san Building, it is operated as a commercial IX realizing gigabit-level traffic exchange.

JPNAP Osaka fills several needs. In the Western Japan area, it serves as a high-throughput IX for efficient exchange of the rising traffic volume, swelled by the popularity of peer-to-peer communications and broadband access growth. At the same time, by interconnecting with JPNAP service in Tokyo, it provides a redundant configuration in line with recent heightened awareness of risk management, while also helping to ease the load on Tokyo where much of the Internet traffic tends to concentrate. Improved network quality and reduced costs, resulting from route optimization with the adoption of a hot potato routing scheme,(***) are other benefits.

Today JPNAP Osaka is being used by leading cable operators in the Kansai area, content holders, Internet service providers and broadband carriers with a nationwide presence, along with a variety of other customers.

So far ten providers have completed connection to the service and are now using it, including AS112 Server, e-catv internet service, IIJ, InfoSphere, JENS SpinNet, NTT-SmC, OCN, Powered Internet, Softbank BB, and ZAQ. They are expected to be joined by @nifty/FENICS, BIGLOBE, InterVia/DreamNet, and WAKWAK/XePhion.

MFEED is committed to playing a pioneering role in the continued growth of the Internet, providing services that support this growth and that contribute to improving the reliability of this key public infrastructure.

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(*)Peak exchange traffic as of March 2003 exceeded 1.6 Gbps.

(**)NTT SmartConnect Corporation (NTT-SmC)

Established in March 2000 with 100 percent equity ownership by NTT West Corporation, the company operates data centers in Osaka, Tokyo, Nagoya, Kobe, Hiroshima, and Fukuoka. It provides a comprehensive lineup of data center services as a platform for information distribution, from housing to hosting, streaming, and network operations.

Web site: http://www.nttsmc.com/

(***)Hot potato routing

When two networks are interconnected at multiple interexchange points, a network passing traffic to the other network chooses the interexchange point that results in the shortest path within its own network. Generally called closest exit routing, this method normally results in the most optimum routing, since the nearest connection point is chosen when exchanging traffic.