

Press Release

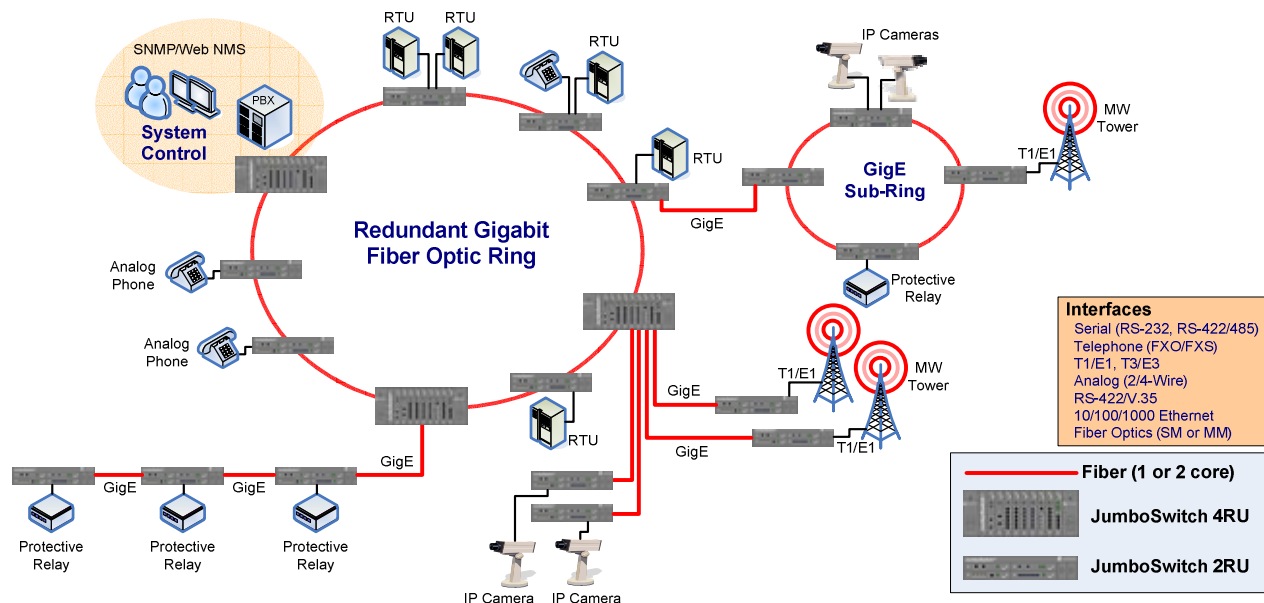
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New GigE Multi-Service Access Platform Touts Advantages over SONET & SDH

Irvine, CA-----TC Communications Inc., the leader in industrial fiber optic network connectivity technology, today announced the commercial availability of its new flagship Gigabit Ethernet Multi-Service Access Platform (MSAP), the JumboSwitch™ product Family.

Based on the most advanced Ethernet/IP, VoIP and TDMoIP technologies, the JumboSwitch MSAP family offers an efficient, low cost alternative to SONET/SDH network solutions for many applications, and promises straight-forward and simple scalability for any network topologies and sizes.



Compared to the complicated hierarchies of SONET or SDH based systems, the JumboSwitch drastically reduces operational expenses since it totally eliminates unnecessary hardware layers, thus significantly lowered the skill level required for installation, maintenance and troubleshooting.

In the past, SONET and SDH communication systems were the only choices when it came to building mission critical automation and control systems. But, progress in the control, computing

and communication technologies has made these TDM based communication systems basically obsolete. This obsolescence is especially apparent during the planning and implementation of Smart Grid backbone networks. The trend is moving quickly towards Ethernet/IP based communications.

The JumboSwitch makes communication network design extremely easy and straight forward. Legacy equipment, e.g. T1/E1, T3/E3, RS-232/RS-485, can co-exist harmoniously on the same platform with more advanced technologies including Ethernet, GigE fiber ports, Turbo Serial for protective relay communication, and LANex, a virtual VoIP PBX without the need of additional Call Managers or SIP Servers.

The center piece of the JumboSwitch family is a fully-managed and easily scalable Gigabit Ethernet switch that integrates up to seven hot-swappable Ethernet, Voice & Data interface cards onto a Gigabit backbone Ethernet fiber optic network.

Management, networking and security features are extensive and include STP, RSTP, SNMP (v1& v2), VLAN, IGMP Snooping, Port Rate Control, QoS, etc. The JumboSwitch supports all popular topologies including redundant ring, bus, string, star and add/drop multiplexing. It is available in 2U and 4U (rack) versions. With TC's proprietary self healing technology, the recovery time for JumboSwitch fiber rings is less than 50ms for any number of nodes.

Configurations are flexible and easily determined by network engineers. For example, it could be configured as a 10/100/1000Mbps Ethernet 42-port redundant ring switch with any combination of fiber or copper ports. Or, it could be configured with 12 channels of Ethernet, 8 channels of T1/E1, 8 channels of phone and 4 channels of RS-232.

All JumboSwitch family interface cards come with an optional Industrial Hardened version (-40°C to 80°C) for extreme environments that meet or exceed all pertinent industrial specifications.

Victor Liang, V.P. Sales & Marketing, noted that the JumboSwitch offers users outstanding price-performance ratios for their communication networks and extreme ease to design, build and maintain.

“JumboSwitch substantially reduces capital expenditures by maximizing bandwidth usage and eliminating unnecessary hardware hierarchies,” Mr. Liang said. “And, compared to SONET/SDH solutions, users will be pleasantly surprised by how much it reduces operational expenditures.

Mr. Liang also emphasized the importance of bridging TDM and IP with GigE, T1/E1, RS-232/485 and VoIP.

“JumboSwitch is the ideal product for many system and network engineers, that gives them the best of both worlds, TDM and Ethernet/IP, without having to compromise on the project requirements.”

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Specializing in Fiber Optic Communications networks, TC Communications, Inc. designs and manufactures all types of Multi-Service Access Platforms, Ethernet Switches, Media Converters, Modems, Multiplexers, Telephone/Data Multiplexers and Telephone Extenders.

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