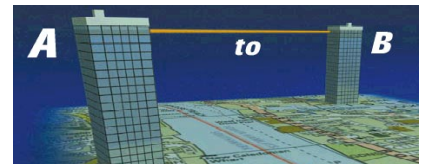


PRESS RELEASE



Cablefree

Secure High Performance Wireless Connectivity

Laser/IR wireless provides high-speed network for film industry in Central London

Cablefree Wireless Metropolitan Area ATM Network transmits high-bandwidth digital video from building to building – without leased lines or digging up roads

Surrey, 12 April 2000 – Leading manufacturer of Laser/Infra-Red wireless connectivity systems, Cablefree Solutions Limited, has provided a Wireless Metropolitan Area Laser/IR ATM network for leading film and media industry Internet and Network Service Provider, Sohonet. The network supports the high-speed transfer of high-definition film, video and audio data between the various specialist companies involved in motion picture production.

The wireless installations utilise Cablefree's 622 Laser/IR systems, configured for 155Mbps ATM transport, linking three key Sohonet clients across the growing Sohonet 'Metropolitan Area Network' in central London. Set up to 500m apart in this application, the laser heads form an integral part of Sohonet's own distributed network for the media industry and transmit data from one laser to another in line-of-sight (LOS) across roof-tops, with the potential to transmit at data rates from 2 to 622Mbps.

Managing Director at Sohonet, Gareth Wredden, said, "One of the great benefits of Cablefree's system is that the equipment can be installed very much faster than an equivalent landline-based solution. In addition, we can re-deploy it at any time; our customers benefit from both the flexibility and the cost-effectiveness of this capability. We've replaced a number of leased line services because, for our purposes, the Cablefree laser system represented the best combination of value and performance available."

Installed in a matter of hours, without the need for any form of licensing, Cablefree's laser system also offers Sohonet an effective alternative to microwave systems. Furthermore, the Cablefree systems allow for simple on-site upgrades to 622Mbps for future high capacity networking.

The narrow transmission angle of 0.5 degrees offers inherent security for any data transmission, improving on radio or microwave systems. Additional data encryption is also available to enhance the level of security even further.

"The highest level of security is essential across our network," added Jon Ferguy, Sohonet's Head of Technology, "and the equipment must be effectively fault free. When you're transmitting production and post-production material for high-profile, high-budget motion pictures the security and real-time availability of the transmission is paramount."

Cablefree Director, Penny Lee, said, "Being selected by Sohonet highlights the fact that our systems can support the most demanding and sophisticated requirements. Flexible, lower-cost alternatives to leased lines and microwave, our laser solutions are ideal for both temporary and long-term installations and, depending on the application, the Cablefree family offers transmission over distances ranging from 100 metres to 4,000 metres.

"If you imagine what it would be like if the roads in Soho were dug up to provide this service using cable – our rooftop network is definitely a far better solution!" concluded Lee.

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