Press release

DE-CIX chooses Smartoptics DCP-404 for 100G aggregation into 400G DWDM

Oslo, Norway – September 14, 2022 – Smartoptics, a leading provider of optical networking solutions, today announced that the world's leading Internet Exchange (IX) operator DE-CIX has chosen the Smartoptics DCP-404 muxponder to run four 100G connections over 400G within its data centers. The solution comes in a small form factor, is engineered to increase fiber utilization, and improves cost efficiency in a number of ways.

DE-CIX provides premium network interconnection services at close to 40 locations across Europe, the Middle East, North America, Africa, India, and Asia. Founded in 1995, DE-CIX is home to the world's largest carrier and data center neutral interconnection ecosystem. Its Frankfurt Internet Exchange, comprising 37 data centers and over 1,100 networks, sees almost 12 terabits of traffic per second during peak times.

Given the large number of customer interconnections within the Internet Exchange's data centers, cost-efficient use of fiber is a decisive factor. With the Smartoptics DCP-404 muxponder paired with 400G transceivers, DE-CIX found a solution to greatly increase fiber utilization.

"Smartoptics has once again exceeded our expectations on several fronts. First of all, we were impressed with the short lead times for both the muxponder and the transceivers to our data center locations across multiple continents. We were also pleasantly surprised by how small and efficient the DCP-404 is while offering low latency. The solution delivers more capacity per wavelength, maximizing what we get out of each fiber. This allows us to significantly cut our cross connect lease expenses and make our offering even more competitive," says Dr. Thomas King, CTO DE-CIX.

DE-CIX and Smartoptics have a history of successful collaboration as DE-CIX began to deploy Smartoptics open line systems in 2021 to upgrade its backbone network, positioning the Internet Exchange operator as a 400G pioneer. The DCP-404 aligns well with forward-looking 400G-based strategies by making it possible to run low-cost 100G over 400G more efficiently.

"The capability to run four 100G links over 400G, using only one fiber instead of four, in such a compact and efficient form factor is unique in the market. By simply adding more DCP-404s into a single rack unit, it is even possible to expand capacity further. We engineered the DCP-404 muxponder to fill an important gap in the market, leveraging the latest technology to offer a whole new level of cost efficiency. With this new muxponder we are empowering major Internet Exchange operators like DE-CIX and enterprise DCI customers alike to break free from the high costs of fiber cross connects," says Magnus Grenfeldt, CEO Smartoptics.

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About Smartoptics

Smartoptics provides innovative optical networking solutions and devices for the new era of open networking. Our customer base includes thousands of enterprises, governments, cloud providers, Internet exchanges as well as cable and telecom operators. We have an open networking approach in everything we do which allows our customers to break unwanted vendor lock-in, remain flexible and minimize costs. Our solutions are used in metro and regional network applications that increasingly rely on data center services and specifications. Smartoptics is a Scandinavian company founded in 2006. We partner with leading technology and network solution providers such as Brocade, Cisco, HPE and Dell EMC and have a global reach through more than 100 business partners.

For additional information about Smartoptics, please visit https://www.smartoptics.com/

About DE-CIX

DE-CIX (German Commercial Internet Exchange) is the world's leading operator of Internet Exchanges (IXs). At its close to 40 locations in Europe, Africa, North America, the Middle East, India, and Asia, DE-CIX interconnects thousands of network operators (carriers), Internet service providers (ISPs), content providers and enterprise networks from more than 100 countries, and offers peering, cloud, and interconnection services. DE-CIX in Frankfurt, Germany, is one of the largest Internet Exchanges in the world, with a data volume of close to 30 Exabytes per year (as of 2021) and close to 1100 connected networks. More than 200 colleagues from over 30 different nations form the foundation of the DE-CIX success story in Germany and around the world. Since the beginning of the commercial Internet, DE-CIX has had a decisive influence – in a range of leading global bodies, such as the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) – on co-defining guiding principles for the Internet of the present and the future. As the operator of critical IT infrastructure, DE-CIX bears a great responsibility for the seamless, fast, and secure data exchange between people, enterprises, and organizations at its locations around the globe.

Further information at www.de-cix.net