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Wi-Fi Guys Teams With Coastal Hotel Group

Posted on: 09/30/2003

PRINT

Wi-Fi Guys LLC (www.wi-figuys.com), a provider of managed hotspot solutions for hotels and public facilities, will provide Chicago-based Coastal Hotel Group (www.coastalhotel.com) with wireless high-speed Internet in its lodging properties. Coastal Hotel Group, a hotel management company, has 14 or so luxury hotels totaling 1,600 rooms in the United States and the Caribbean.

Business travelers obtain a password from the hotel's front desk or pay for the service by credit card, based on the individual hotel's policy. The guest then logs on and begins surfing. Users can access Wi-Fi Guys service with laptops or PDAs using a wireless card or Intel Centrino chip.

"We are thrilled to be able to provide high-speed Internet access to our guests - especially our business travelers," says Graham Hershman, COO at Coastal Hotel Group. "We recognize the importance of keeping our guests connected to their business, and Wi-Fi Guys provides this service with a fast, efficient connection at a low cost."

Wi-Fi Guys say its ability to reduce telecom costs was also a major factor in Coastal's selection.

In the next few months service will roll out. It has already been installed at The Orchard Hotel in San Francisco.

Wi-Fi Guys wireless service, available direct and via agents, provides unlimited use of high-speed wireless Internet access that is up to 50 times faster than dial-up; toll-free technical support; no timeouts or dropped connections during inactivity or downloads; browser-based software; and Wi-Fi

(802.11b, or g) wireless Internet access in hotel

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common areas such as lobbies, restaurants and by the pool.

"Our focus is to provide the millions of mobile travelers with immediate high-speed access to their e-mail, company's intranet or any other Internet activity they require," says Jay Lewis, vice president of Wi-Fi Guys.

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PPL Telcom Creates Shadow Port Service

Posted on: 04/13/2005

PRINT

PPL Telcom, a Pennsylvania-based transport provider serving wholesale carriers and large enterprises, has added Shadow Port service to its IP product line. The company describes Shadow Port as an IP back-up technology that meets no-single-point-of-failure requirements.

Typically, a company pays for connections to multiple entrances into the building, with two local loops and two physical IP ports, both of which are always active, explains Nitin Krishna, product line manager for PPL Telcom. "With Shadow Port, there are still diverse entrances with the same number of local loops and physical IP ports, but only one IP port is active at any given time," he says. "The Shadow Port will respond automatically if the active port fails."

PPL Telcom's pricing includes regular charges for the local loops and an active IP port, and a separate Shadow Port charge. The company says this provides the necessary redundancy and availability levels, but keeps costs low by avoiding an extra full-priced IP port. "Initially, we designed the Shadow Port product to meet the unique requirements of a specific customer," says Charles Boddy, marketing director for PPL Telcom. "But quickly realizing the demand for this type of service, we made the necessary modifications to roll it out on a larger scale."

Shadow Port service includes a 99.999 percent availability service level agreement, an IP block per port, and DNS and mail bagging services if needed.

PPL Telcom is an unregulated subsidiary of PPL Corp. that provides broadband connections to telecommunications companies, ISPs, and large businesses and institutions.

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MyPhoneCompany Releases VoIP Adapter

Posted on: 04/12/2005

PRINT

MyPhoneCompany, in tandem with Cognigen Networks and Netwise, has unveiled its latest VoIP product, an adapter for standard phones that routes calls over the Internet.

The company adds the device also maintains the quality of standard phones, but saves users money because calls go over broadband connections.

MyPhoneCompany offers several calling plans, ranging from unlimited local to unlimited local and long-distance service. The adapter's features include caller ID, call waiting, voice mail and more.

MyPhoneCompany markets through channel partners.

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PowerNet Global Offers Local, Long-Distance Bundles

Posted on: 04/12/2005

PRINT

PowerNet Global Communications said today it is offering local and long-distance service bundles to its residential customers. The initial launch includes Florida, Indiana, Michigan and New York; the services are sold through the provider's partner channel, and PowerNet Global will be announcing more states where the services will be available.

"With local and long-distance services on one simple bill with personalized customer care, we are continuing in our commitment to provide unmatched value and choice for consumers," says Bernie Stevens, president and CEO. "When you add high-speed dialup Internet access and other residential services ... our simplicity and value become clear advantages for us in a highly competitive market."

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Talkfree Aims Service at Third World

Posted on: 04/12/2005

PRINT

Venturing into low-bit-rate VoIP for developing countries, Talkfree Telecom Inc. has announced a wholesale service aimed at third-world markets where access to the Internet is largely over dial-up phone lines with bit rates below 64kbps.

Talkfree is assembling resellers in developing territories and already has signed agreements in Cambodia, Vietnam, Egypt and Haiti. Competitors that already serve this market include Go2Call, likely the market leader, with Dialpad and Net2Phone also offering services.

Resellers will be able to put their own brands on their Web sites and on the Talkfree softphone.

In addition to low international rates, Talkfree provides real-time account management and PIN generation services, stock, inventory control. For resellers, the service includes a private-label Web site, with e-commerce included that can be up and running in 48 hours. Real-

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time credit scoring also is offered to help eliminate fraud.

The Talkfree dialer prompts customers to purchase or recharge an account that will then activate a PIN. Accounts are prepaid starting at increments of \$10. Callers then input the PIN and begin making calls. TalkFree Telecom customers can call each other for free.

The Talkfree service is based on the G.729 codec, which can provide VoIP at bit rates as low as 19.2kbps.

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New Edge Certified By VeriFone, Paymentech

Posted on: 04/12/2005

PRINT

New Edge Networks has earned certification on a solution that helps retail merchants migrate from dialup to high-speed broadband networks that speed up card payment transactions.

The technology lets merchants keep their dialup point-of-sale systems, but allows them to use different high-speed transmission protocols, thereby keeping businesses from buying new infrastructure.

Payment solutions provider VeriFone Inc. and Paymentech, an electronic payment processor, tested and certified the solution with New Edge Networks. It consists of a VeriFone Ruby point-of-sale system connected to Precidia Technologies' Ether232POS over a New Edge Networks WAN. Precidia's Ether232POS converts the dialup signal to IP without changing processes.

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