

Press release

## Deltacom Upgrades Southeast Network with Alcatel-Lucent's Optical Transport Solution

Paris, March 2, 2009 - Alcatel-Lucent (Euronext Paris and NYSE: ALU) and ITC^DeltaCom, Inc. (OTC: ITCD.OB) today announced that Deltacom, Inc., a leading provider of integrated communications services in the southeastern United States, has completed the deployment of Alcatel-Lucent's next-generation multiplexers as part of its long haul SONET ring network upgrade. Deltacom has also completed Metro SONET ring expansions across several key markets in North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Alabama and Georgia with expectations to complete several others by the end of the year.

Deltacom's deployment of Alcatel-Lucent's 1665 Data Multiplexer Ethernet-over-SONET hybrid Ethernet, SONET and SAN platform currently enables DS-3 to OC-192 SONET protected on- and off-ramps between Deltacom's long haul and metro networks and its DWDM backbone. The SONET ring infrastructure supports traditional private line, transport for Ethernet private line, and Ethernet packet ring services delivered to Deltacom's business and enterprise customers and to its Interstate FiberNet wholesale customers. In addition to long haul and metro private line services, the Multiplexer platform provides an infrastructure for future IP, Ethernet over MPLS, and SAN service growth.

"The Alcatel-Lucent solution offers a growth platform as we continue to augment our network infrastructure to provide SONET protected services in our expanding Southeast footprint. Customers across all of our business segments will benefit from the increased service availability and greater on-net reach," said Jim O'Brien, Executive Vice President of Operations for Deltacom. "Alcatel-Lucent is helping us meet our immediate needs and is providing us with a cost-effective, simple migration path to accommodate future service requirements."

"Alcatel-Lucent's 1665 Data Multiplexer solution will enable Deltacom to expand its network reliability, throughput and capability, and reduce costs as it expands its SONET network across not only its Tier-1, but also its Tier-2 and Tier-3 markets," said Charles Marsh, vice president of sales for Alcatel-Lucent's North America major accounts. "Our solution offers the flexibility required to provide today's and tomorrow's services as it enables Deltacom to grow efficiently to meet future customer demand."

In addition to the Alcatel-Lucent 1665 DMX, Deltacom will deploy the Alcatel-Lucent optical integrated network controller for integrated, multi-vendor network management capabilities, including security, fault, performance, and configuration management. Alcatel-Lucent will also provide maintenance on the equipment.

### About ITC^DeltaCom, Inc.

ITC^DeltaCom, Inc., headquartered in Huntsville, Alabama, provides, through its operating subsidiaries, integrated telecommunications and technology services to businesses and other communications providers in the southeastern United States. ITC^DeltaCom has a fiber optic network spanning approximately 15,800 route miles, including more than 11,800 route miles of owned fiber, and offers a comprehensive suite of voice and data communications services, including local,

