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For immediate release

Aethra Vega X7 HD System Among 10 Top Videoconferencing Products of 2006

The New Aethra system for High Definition visual communication system receives the highest accolade from web-based global newsletter Videoconferencing Insight

Ancona, Italy, -- 23 January 2007 -- Aethra SpA, a leader in the global video communication market, today announced that one of its systems was judged among the ten best new videoconferencing systems of 2006 by Videoconferencing Insight, www.vcinsight.com, the web-based newsletter, internationally recognised as one of the top authorities on the world video communications scenario since 1996. The Aethra system chosen by Videoconferencing Insight is the Aethra Vega X7 high definition (HD) visual communication system.

According to Videoconferencing Insight Editor Richard Line, HD is the way forward for the videoconferencing industry "There is no doubt that most users will prefer a High Definition (HD) videoconferencing system if they can afford it. In two years time, few users will think of buying an obsolete SD-only VC system," explains Richard Line in the introduction to his choice of the ten best VC solutions of 2006.

Aethra's new Vega X7 HD solution has been designed specifically for video meetings with high-definition video. It provides users with higher resolution video, enhanced colours, sharper images, and better audio and performance. It is also compatible with video conferencing systems from other manufacturers, as it supports both wideband audio codecs – G.722.1 Annex C and AAC-LD.

The solution is equipped with a HD-SDI connector for the HD 16:9 camera included in the package. This cutting-edge rack-mounted codec provides the highest quality videoconferencing for customized deployment in rooms of all sizes.

The Vega X7 provides XGA input and output ports for simultaneous dual-stream video for live PC presentations. The integrated Multipoint Conferencing Unit (MCU) connects up to 9 sites in mixed mode (ISDN, IP-H.323 and IP-SIP), with convenient dial-out and dial-in (Meet Me) configuration. Continuous Presence feature enables participants at all sites to view each other simultaneously. The Vega X7 can be integrated into existing conference rooms with audio and video facilities or customized solutions.

"The move to HD videoconferencing is a fundamental part of our on-going strategies", explains Marco Viezzoli, Aethra CEO. "We are therefore extremely satisfied to see that our HD solution, Vega X7 has been chosen by Videoconferencing Insight as one of the ten best VC solutions of this year. Our goal is to continue creating solutions that perfectly reflect the requirements of the market, such as HD systems, which is why we continue to invest 10-15% of our revenue every year into Research and Development. Aethra has been in the telecommunications business for thirty-five years and this latest step in making HD infrastructure solutions available on the market is just another demonstration of Aethra's ability to put forth advanced technology," concludes Marco Viezzoli.

For more information about the Videoconferencing Insight Awards <http://www.vcinsight.com/?menuID=100>

About Videoconferencing Insight Newsletter

Videoconferencing Insight is a well established newsletter for the user of video and unified conferencing systems which has reported on the industry from a user perspective since May 1996. To increase access to the Newsletter, Videoconferencing Insight became a webzine in August 2002. It is published online on Wednesday of each week at www.vcinsight.com and read in more than 60 countries around the world. In addition to the user application case studies, interviews and industry news published weekly, the web site contains a reference data bank of 400 user applications in 25 user vertical categories such as manufacturing industry, financial services, hospitals, telemedicine and education. Potential users of videoconferencing are invited to examine these case studies in order better understand the benefits of using videoconferencing for themselves.

About Aethra®

Aethra (www.aethra.com) is a leader in the global telecommunications market, with distribution of its leading-edge products through businesses and telephone companies in over 60 countries worldwide. Aethra offers the full spectrum of videoconferencing solutions over circuit (ISDN), packet (IP) and 3G mobile networks including videoconferencing end-points (rollabouts, set-tops, codecs, videophones, desktop); MCUs (Multipoint Conferencing Units) with full video/audio transcoding and SIP/H.323 support; ISDN to IP and 3G to IP Gateways for seamless connectivity between different networks; Gatekeeper functionality for call control and dial plan schemes; Scheduling & Management tools.

In addition, Aethra offers multi-audio, video and data services thanks to Aethra.net, the company specifically focused on multi-conferencing services. Aethra also develops and markets internationally a variety of telecommunications products, including ISDN and xDSL systems and networking test equipment. These exceptional products have distinguished Aethra as a leader in the telecommunications industry worldwide for over 30 years, reflecting its expertise in bringing cutting-edge communications technologies to the market.

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