

## Global Crossing Secures German Rights-of-Way and Conduits for Pan European Crossing System

- Global Crossing on target for 1999 completion of fiber-optic network connecting top markets in Europe.
- Global Crossing has secured all rights-of-way and conduits for its routes in Germany connecting major German cities and cross border links.
- Global Crossing has now secured rights-of-way in Germany, The Netherlands and Belgium.

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**Hamilton, Bermuda** - Global Crossing Ltd. (NASDAQ: GBLX) today announced that it has secured rights-of-way in Germany for its Pan European Crossing (PEC) network. Global Crossing has entered into an agreement with GasLINE, a joint venture of 15 German natural gas distribution companies, to provide and construct conduits connecting all major German cities on PEC and the associated cross border links. Securing German rights-of-way and conduits marks a significant step in the development of Global Crossing's state-of-the-art fiber-optic PEC system, being developed to connect the top metropolitan centers in Europe with the United States, Asia and Latin America.

Global Crossing's CEO, Jack M. Scanlon said, "The GasLINE agreement is another major step forward in the rapid deployment of our PEC system, the highest capacity independent European fiber-optic network. With this agreement we have now secured the rights-of-way to the key German cities of Frankfurt, Hamburg, Dusseldorf, Koln and Hanover. This will allow us to provide connectivity to these cities ahead of our previously announced schedule."

GasLINE managing director, Frederick Wolf said, "With this contract, Global Crossing is a key customer of GasLINE. We are certain that Global Crossing will play an important role in the German market and we are looking forward to our cooperative effort." Under the agreement, Global Crossing will receive:

- Dedicated long-term rights of use for GasLINE's conduit network in Germany connecting the major cities of Hamburg, Hanover, Dusseldorf, Koln and Frankfurt with a total length of about 1,200 kilometers;
- Provisional dark fiber capacity from Hamburg to Strasbourg and their connection with other parts of the network;
- The option to expand the network with an additional conduit along the same route;
- The option to extend the network in Germany to connect to additional cities such as Berlin, Munich and Stuttgart;
- Procurement and installation of cable;
- Sites for repeater and regenerator stations, telehouses and points of presence.

Global Crossing's PEC system will interconnect 18 European cities, including London, Amsterdam, Frankfurt and Paris, with initial service targeted for 1999. Last month, Global Crossing reached an agreement with VersaTel for rights-of-way and conduits for the Netherlands and Belgium.

## **ABOUT GLOBAL CROSSING**

Crossing is developing the world's first independent high capacity global fiber-optic network. The Global Crossing network is being designed to connect 100 of the top telecommunications cities in the United States, Europe, Asia and Latin America.

Announced October 1, 1998, Global Crossing's PEC will connect the major commercial centers of Europe with the world, representing a up to 144 fiber terrestrial network of approximately 7,200 route kilometers. Based on fibers per kilometer, PEC is by far the highest capacity European network. PEC will use the latest Synchronous Digital Hierarchy (SDH) and Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing (DWDM) technologies from leading suppliers to provide ultra-high capacity, self-healing fiber-optic rings.

Global Crossing is a carrier's carrier, offering global network capacity to international telecommunications carriers and Internet service providers worldwide. The Company's initial fiber-optic system, Atlantic Crossing (AC-1), connecting the United States to the United Kingdom, went into service in May, 1998. Service between the United States and the European Continent will commence later this month. Connectivity to Latin America via the Mid-Atlantic Crossing (MAC) and Pan-American Crossing (PAC) fiber-optic systems is scheduled for December, 1999, and March, 2000, respectively. Connectivity to Asia via the Pacific Crossing (PC-1) fiber-optic system is scheduled for initial service in March 2000.

Global Crossing's holding company headquarters are in Los Angeles. Its operations are based in Hamilton, Bermuda, and the Company has offices in Morristown, New Jersey; San Francisco; Miami; London; Amsterdam; and Buenos Aires.

## **ABOUT GASLINE**

GasLINE was founded in 1996 by 15 German natural gas distribution companies. GasLINE offers fiber-optic lines and related services to telecommunications companies, using the existing pipeline rights-of-way of GasLINE shareholders, which comprise approximately 30,000 kilometers. Utilization of gas pipeline routes provides simplified land planning and public permit procedures, rights-of-way, a protected position close to the gas pipeline and an experienced maintenance staff. In 1997, GasLINE built a nationwide fiber-optic 2,000-kilometer network in Germany. Further networks and routes are currently under construction to total 3,000 kilometers and will be completed by the end of this year.

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