

## HEAnet Chooses Global Crossing for Global Internet Connectivity

- HEAnet joins other leading European and South American research networks supported by Global Crossing.
- Underscores Global Crossing's growing reputation as high-speed connectivity provider to academic and scientific institutions.
- Delivers faster, more reliable Internet connectivity to 150,000 Irish subscribers.
- New Global Crossing IP node in Dublin to accelerate development of high capacity network services in Ireland.

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**Dublin, Ireland** – More than 150,000 students, academics and researchers will have faster, more reliable Internet access following a new deal announced today between Global Crossing and HEAnet, the Irish research and education network. The two-year contract will require Global Crossing to deliver Internet connectivity for HEAnet users across Ireland. The agreement, believed to be the biggest Internet capacity deal in Ireland, will give HEAnet direct access to the Internet via Global Crossing's new Internet Protocol (IP) node in Dublin.

HEAnet's 150,000 users will benefit from faster and more cost-effective links to the public Internet, complementing HEAnet's strategic connections to other research and education networks in Europe, North America and the rest of the world. The new agreement allocates 622 Mbps of capacity to HEAnet, but allows for peak traffic loads of up to three times that amount, enabling users to enjoy uninterrupted service regardless of the amount of packets being sent across the network.

In addition to offering significantly more bandwidth to HEAnet users, Global Crossing's solution will deliver significant cost and technical benefits, as it will eliminate the need to backhaul traffic into London in order to access the Internet. HEAnet will also benefit from the resilience and reliability of Global Crossing's global IP-based network, which reaches 27 countries and more than 200 major cities around the globe.

Global Crossing's IP node is located at its second point of presence (PoP) in Dublin. The commissioning of this IP node is designed to accelerate the development of high capacity network services in Ireland as it gives Irish Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and other businesses direct access to Global Crossing's global Internet Access Services, removing the need to backhaul traffic to PoPs in other locations.

John Boland, chief executive, HEAnet, said: "Agreeing to this contract with Global Crossing is an exciting outcome to the detailed tender process through which HEAnet sought a dramatic but cost-effective upgrade to its general Internet connectivity. Access to the Internet is an essential tool for education and research, and this new connection will give high performance to all our users."

Phil Metcalf, managing director of Global Crossing Europe, said: "This new agreement with HEAnet demonstrates the ongoing success of our relationship and our commitment to the international academic community. This is also an important step for Ireland as our new PoP gives the Irish ISP and business community direct access to the rest of the world via one of the world's most advanced IP networks. It demonstrates our commitment to continue investing in meeting the needs of our customers as Global Crossing gears up for growth."

This latest contract from HEAnet builds on Global Crossing's growing status as a network provider of choice to academic and research networks around the world. These include the Brazilian National Research and Education Network (RNP) and DANTE, the organization responsible for managing the world's largest academic and research network, GÉANT. Global Crossing has commissioned a multi-Gigabit IP Transit Service to DANTE, which operates a 10Gbps European IP backbone to connect in the region of 3,500 research and educational establishments in more than 30 countries around Europe. In addition, Global Crossing has a three-year agreement with FAPESP (Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo), the largest academic research institution in Brazil, to provide rapid data transmission between universities and research centres in the U.S. and Brazil, as well as several contracts for national and international connectivity with SURFnet, which operates the Dutch national research network.

#### **ABOUT GLOBAL CROSSING**

Global Crossing provides telecommunications solutions over the world's first integrated global IP-based network, which reaches 27 countries and more than 200 major cities around the globe. Global Crossing serves many of the world's largest corporations, providing a full range of managed data and voice products and services.

On January 28, 2002, Global Crossing Ltd. and certain of its subsidiaries (excluding Asia Global Crossing and its subsidiaries) commenced Chapter 11 cases in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York (Bankruptcy Court) and coordinated proceedings in the Supreme Court of Bermuda (Bermuda Court). On the same date, the Bermuda Court granted an order appointing joint provisional liquidators with the power to oversee the continuation and reorganization of the Bermuda-incorporated companies' businesses under the control of their boards of directors and under the supervision of the Bankruptcy Court and the Bermuda Court. Additional Global Crossing subsidiaries commenced Chapter 11 cases on April 23, August 4 and August 30, 2002, with the Bermuda incorporated subsidiaries filing coordinated insolvency proceedings in the Bermuda Court. The administration of all the cases filed subsequent to Global Crossing's initial filing on January 28, 2002 has been consolidated with that of the cases commenced on January 28, 2002. Global Crossing's Plan of Reorganization, which was confirmed by the Bankruptcy Court on December 26, 2002, does not include a capital structure in which existing common or preferred equity will retain any value.

On November 18, 2002, Asia Global Crossing Ltd., a majority-owned subsidiary of Global Crossing, and its subsidiary, Asia Global Crossing Development Co., commenced Chapter 11 cases in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York and coordinated proceedings in the Supreme Court of Bermuda, both of which are separate from the cases of Global Crossing. Asia Global Crossing has announced that no recovery is expected for Asia Global Crossing's shareholders. Asia Netcom, a company organized by China Netcom Corporation (Hong Kong) on behalf of a consortium of investors, has acquired substantially all of Asia Global Crossing's operating subsidiaries except Pacific Crossing Ltd., a majority-owned subsidiary of Asia Global Crossing that filed separate bankruptcy proceedings on July 19, 2002. Global Crossing no longer has control of or effective ownership in any of the assets formerly operated by Asia Global Crossing.

Please visit [www.globalcrossing.com](http://www.globalcrossing.com) for more information about Global Crossing.

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*frames and budgets; the ability to compete effectively in a rapidly evolving and price competitive marketplace; possible reductions in demand for our products and services due to competition changes in industry conditions; changes in the nature of telecommunications regulation in the United States and other countries; changes in business strategy; the successful integration of acquired businesses; the impact of technological change; and other risks referenced from time to time in Global Crossing's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.*

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