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NYSERNet selects WilTel dark fiber and collocation services

December 14, 2004 Tulsa, OK -- The New York State Education and Research Network (NYSERNet) has selected WilTel Communications' services as the foundation for a new statewide infrastructure. The new infrastructure will provide DWDM and Internet Protocol (IP) network services to NYSERNet's member institutions, which include New York State's leading research universities.

WilTel is providing NYSERNet with dark fiber and collocation services. NYSERNet is deploying technology on these facilities that will provide its member institutions with access to 32 optical waves, each capable of transferring up to 10 Gbits/sec. NYSERNet will use these facilities to provide its members with Gigabit access to NYSERNet's research and education network, as well as dedicated high-speed transport services that enabling them to develop and participate in a variety of national and international research initiatives.

"The capacity and flexibility of this new infrastructure enables new applications in research and education," reports Dr. Timothy Lance, president of NYSERNet. "WilTel's flexibility, their commitment to the higher education market, and the quality of their fiber made them an ideal provider for the underlying network. We look forward to working with WilTel as emerging and ever more demanding applications push the envelope of fiber's carrying capacity."

According to Tony Tomae, senior vice president of marketing for WilTel, the services that WilTel is providing for NYSERNet represent the latest in a number of deals the company has reached with research and education institutions. "WilTel has a history of carrying the most highly sensitive and mission-critical voice, data, and video traffic over our network," he contends. "The largest research and higher education networking organizations are now taking advantage of our experience and diverse service offerings to help facilitate their transition to more advanced, next-generation network applications."

In August, WilTel was selected as one of only six vendors to provide Internet services to The Quilt, a coalition of more than 20 regional research and networking organizations that serve more than 100 member universities and research organizations. The company is also a member of Internet2, a consortium led by 206 universities that works in partnership with the telecom industry and the government to develop and deploy advanced network applications and technologies.

WilTel offers a portfolio of IP-based products and services tailored to meet the next-generation networking needs of higher education and research institutions. WilTel claims its MPLS-enabled 10-Gbit/sec IP network consistently surpasses industry benchmarks for

latency, packet loss, and network availability, providing an ideal platform for mission-critical network applications.