

## Velocity Media Release

Project Ref: P-3606

Client: Velocity Networks

Date: 26/3/08

Target Media: Telecoms Review, Waikato Times IT editor, Computer World, WBN

---

27/03/08

### ALTERNATIVE LOCAL LOOP ACCESS NOW AVAILABLE IN HAMILTON

Hamilton based Velocity Networks is now able to offer local businesses in the city a viable alternative means of connecting to the internet.

Velocity Networks is partnering with Hamilton Fibre Network (HFN) in a collaborative project led by Hamilton City Council and Wintec, with support from the University of Waikato and Environment Waikato, to provide ultra-high speed broadband access to commercial buildings across the city.

The combined fibre networks of these partners span the central city and Velocity Networks will be delivering broadband internet access through these networks at speeds of up to 1Gbps (1000Mbps). To put this speed into perspective, most ADSL broadband connections available today can only run at a maximum speed of around 7Mbps.

“Unlike most broadband providers who effectively ‘rebadge’ the standard ADSL offering, Velocity Networks is able to differentiate its service offering and provide a product that is unique to business users in the city”, explained Velocity Networks managing director, John O’Donoghue. “One of the benefits of the new network is that it will allow organisations with branches across the city to connect at previously unavailable Local Area Network speeds, delivering seamless business operation and enhanced company productivity”, he added.

Large files can be sent internally from branch to branch as if they were in the same building and real-time business applications can run more effectively across remote locations. Businesses now have a cost-effective and significantly faster alternative to the older dedicated circuits most commonly in use.

Operating as an ‘open access’ community network, anyone in the central city area can subscribe and connect, from businesses to application and internet service providers alike. An added advantage of this ‘open access’ community network is that users are free to purchase services from a range of service providers on the network and are not restricted to only buying services from the network operator, as is the case with most dedicated circuits.

“A number of well known service providers such as WorldxChange, Kordia, Orcon, FX Networks and Lightwire (a division of Rural Link) have already signed up and are now offering their own data and voice solutions across the network”, said Shane Hobson, Velocity’s business development manager. “We also have several local internet cafés offering internet access through our fibre network”, he added.

The project has a number of implementation phases and will be completed by the end of 2009. The initial rollout of this extensive fibre network has been funded by a \$3.3 million grant from the Ministry of Economic Development, as part of the Government’s Digital Strategy. Phase one will also see an additional 6.5km of ducting and over 9km of fibre cable being laid across the city, with continued expansion planned over the next two years.

---

The network is already operational and a number of commercial customers have been connected. Project partners, Hamilton City Council, Wintec and Environment Waikato are also using the network extensively for their own data and internet access requirements.

“This ultra-high speed broadband project offers significant economic benefits to Hamilton’s business community and will allow local business to participate more effectively in the wider international economy”, concluded John O’Donoghue.

- Ends-

517 words

Editorial contact

Shane Hobson  
Business Development Manager  
Velocity Networks Ltd  
PO Box 24022  
Hamilton

T: 07 929 2118  
M: 021 221 3999  
E: [shane@velocitynetworks.co.nz](mailto:shane@velocitynetworks.co.nz)  
W: [www.velocitynetworks.co.nz](http://www.velocitynetworks.co.nz)