

Media Release

iiNet Welcomes Broadband Backhaul Blackspot Plans More than 3500 existing customers could benefit

1 July 2009 - iiNet, Australia's third largest Internet Service Provider, has welcomed the Federal Government's broadband backhaul blackspot announcement saying more than 3500 existing iiNet customers could benefit.

Managing Director, Michael Malone, said iiNet already had more than 3500 customers in the regions identified by the Government as priority areas who could potentially gain access to iiNet's faster, cheaper broadband and phone services with the introduction of competitive backhaul.

He applauded the government's proactive approach to addressing the lack of competitive backhaul infrastructure.

"We especially welcome the Government's recognition that a specific backhaul initiative need not wait for a wider deployment of improved access platforms, via the proposed national broadband network (NBN)," Mr Malone said.

"We have been conscious that the well documented lack of competitive backhaul, amongst other things, has created an impediment to the extension of metro-equivalent services for regional customers.

"Our innovative and competitive suite of services is keenly sought after by both consumers and small businesses in these areas. The lack of competitive backhaul has prevented us from being able to offer these services to all the regional customers we would like to.

"Given the right cost and service inputs, iiNet is very keen to extend the reach of the services delivered over its iiNetwork to regional areas like those identified in today's announcement.

"We believe we are uniquely placed to improve the choice available to a customer base keen to access the wealth of resources facilitated by broadband access to the internet.

"We look forward to the outcome of the tender process and the extension of competitive backhaul across regional Australia."

About iiNet

iiNet was established in 1993 and listed on the ASX in 1999 (ASX: IIN), growing from a small Perth business into the third largest Internet Service Provider in Australia. The Company now supports more than 725,000 dial up, broadband and telephony services nationwide, is on track to exceed \$400m of revenue in FY09, and proudly employs more than 1,400 people in Perth, Sydney, Auckland and Cape Town.

iiNet's goal is to lead the market with the best Internet access products and then differentiate with genuine, plain speaking customer service. The company has its own high speed ADSL2+ network reaching around 4 million households across Australia, the largest Voice over IP network in the country, and is delighted to have led yet again with Naked DSL, recognized by PC User Magazine as the 2007 Product of the Year.

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