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IMTC Celebrates 20th Anniversary with Major Telecommunications Multimedia Industry Event and Awards Ceremony

“Today and tomorrow of visual communications, building on 20 years of technology breakthroughs”

SAN RAMON, Calif. – November 19, 2013 -- The International Multimedia Telecommunications Consortium (IMTC) announces the successful completion of its 20th Anniversary Telecommunications Multimedia Industry Forum and Awards Ceremony.

The forum took place in Porto, Portugal, Oct. 8 – 10, 2013, where 40 industry experts and visionaries presented the latest and greatest thinking on Internet audio and video technologies, WebRTC, H.265 and video coding technologies, the future of communications standards, voice and video over LTE, Internet of Things, ICT and more.

Keynote speakers included Keith Griffin, Principal Engineer, Office of the CTO, Collaboration Technology Group, Cisco; José Salas Pires, Director Network Engineering & Planning, Portugal Telecom; Touradj Ebrahimi, Professor, Head of Multimedia Signal Processing Group, EPFL; Annicken Rød, Founder and Evangelist, Corporate Spring; Tom-Erik Lia, CEO and Co-founder, Videxio and Jeff Pulver, Chairman, Zula.

Tom-Erik Lia kicked off the third day of the forum, which focused on cloud services and audio coding. “We need to accelerate the adoption and use of video communications by simplifying and enhancing the user experience, allowing users to collaborate across video platforms and between the devices and solutions that they want to use,” said Lia. “Interoperability is key and, while IMTC has celebrated its 20th anniversary, its continued role of promoting standards adoption remains essential today and for the foreseen future.”

“It was a great pleasure to participate in the event celebrating 20 years of IMTC making today’s communication technologies possible,” Jeff Pulver said. “As a neutral, non-profit organization, IMTC is poised to continue its work helping to define and create communications technologies of tomorrow and to make them interoperable.”

At the forum, IMTC also presented its prestigious leadership award to Thomas Wiegand of the Fraunhofer Heinrich Hertz Institute for his contributions to video coding and its standardization. Wiegand is a professor at the department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the Berlin Institute of Technology, chairing the Image Communication Laboratory, and is jointly heading the Image Processing department of the Fraunhofer Institute for Telecommunications. His research interests include video processing and coding, and multimedia transmission, as well as computer vision and graphics.

IMTC also presented Service Awards to four long-standing board members and officers: Andrea Basso, David Benham, Christophe Dutein and Satish Jamagadni. They all have provided outstanding service to

the IMTC and have been enthusiastic supporters of IMTC forums, SuperOp testing events and other IMTC activities.

Anatoli Levine, President of the IMTC and Director of Product Management of Radvision, an Avaya company, summarized this year's forum: "From the theme, presentations, panels and discussions point of view, this forum was one of the best in IMTC's history and it was a grand way for IMTC to celebrate its 20th anniversary. The event showed how important the IMTC is in helping define and promote important technologies like WebRTC, which is becoming a very important activity for IMTC to focus on in 2014 through the work of the recently formed WebRTC Interoperability Activity Group. Other high priority topics include Voice and Video over LTE and RCS, and we will continue interoperability work for classic IMTC areas such as SIP video communications, TIP and Telepresence, and embrace emerging new areas that the industry will require."

Video replay of all the forum presentations, keynote addresses and panel discussions will be available at <http://imtc.org>.

The forum sponsors included Polycom, Vidyo, Cisco, Unify, Qualcomm, Avaya, Ericsson and Inventures. Event management was provided by Inventures.

The next forum is being planned with exact dates and location to be announced at a later date.

About the International Multimedia Telecommunications Consortium (IMTC)

The IMTC is an industry-leading, non-profit organization whose mission is to promote and facilitate the development and use of interoperable, real-time, multimedia telecommunication products and services based on open international standards. The IMTC hosts interoperability testing events and demonstrations throughout the world. IMTC has hosted numerous events to test IMS, VoLTE, SIP, H.323, 3G-324M, TIP, 3G PS Streaming, and other Voice over IP products and services with each other. The IMTC Board of Directors includes representatives from AT&T, Cisco Systems, Ericsson, Fraunhofer Institute, Huawei, Intel, LifeSize Communications, Nokia, Polycom, Qualcomm, Radvision an Avaya Company, Samsung, Unify and Vidyo. Membership is open to any interested party, including vendors of audio, document, and video conferencing hardware and software; academic institutions; government agencies; and non-profit organizations. The IMTC is making "Rich Media happen Anywhere, Anytime." Further information can be found at <http://www.imtc.org>.

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