



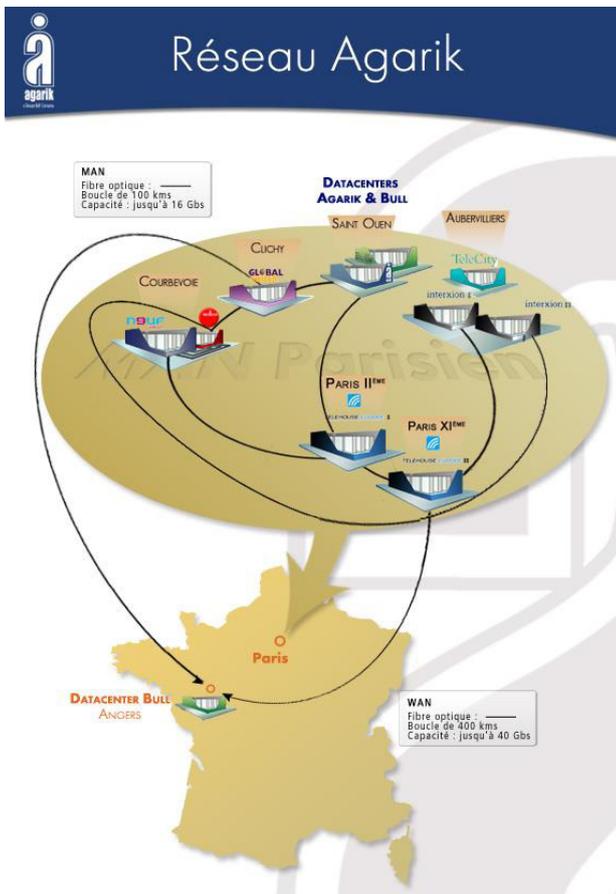
Press release



Ekinops and Agarik team up to deploy one of the longest DWDM Networks in France

PARIS – February 28, 2008 – Ekinops, a leading provider of optical transport, CWDM, DWDM and aggregation solutions, and Agarik, a network operator specializing in hosting and managing critical web infrastructures, have teamed up to deploy a long-haul DWDM 10 Gbps network.

The network links Agarik's data center in the Paris area to Bull's data center in Pays de Loire. In operation since January 2008, the new optical network spans more than 400 km (250 miles) and allows for very high capacity of data exchange between two very remote datacenters. Agarik and Bull can now offer its customers an entire suite of new services including disaster recovery and business continuity, geographically dispersed clusters, virtual data centers, and remote storage and backup. The network also helps Bull as it consolidates the resources of its data centers.



Agarik is using the Ekinops platform to transport multi GbE (Gigabit Ethernet) and Fibre Channel streams over one of the longest DWDM terrestrial links deployed in France. Ekinops, a recognized expert in implementing metro and long-haul optical networks, provided Agarik a solution that will ultimately double the capacities of its fiber cables to accommodate much greater bandwidth and distance.

Laurent Seror, Chief Operating Officer and founder of Agarik, outlined the reasons why Agarik chose Ekinops: “the Ekinops 360 platform offered us a real technological breakthrough in optical transport. Ekinops was the only optical equipment manufacturer with a solution that significantly reduced the number of signal regeneration sites we needed while keeping our capital and operational costs down.”

“Agarik and Bull are offering their customers the highest level of disaster recovery and hosting services. Ekinops has been providing optical storage and long haul solutions for many years and we are very excited to be a part of this project,” adds Sebastien Bernard, Ekinops’ Sales Director for North EMEA.

To overcome the long optical span between the two data centers, Ekinops used Raman amplification, a technology based on energy exchange that can be implemented over fibers already deployed. Raman technology is used mostly in submarine fiber networks. It optimizes the transport capacities of optical fiber and substantially extends distances of optical signals.

Bull Services Infogérés takes a decisive step in the implementation of virtual datacenters.

With the availability of the new broadband link set up by its subsidiary Agarik, Bull has strengthened its telecommunications infrastructures. The increased capacity allows Bull’s hosting and managing services customers to benefit from the latest technologies and IT processes. For instance, Bull has now started deploying virtual data centers by leveraging the capabilities of the fiber network, with features such as synchronous and asynchronous replication, geographical clusters, and remote backups. This aids Bull as it consolidates the resources of its data centers.

About Agarik

AGARIK is a specialized player in designing, supplying, hosting and managing critical Web infrastructures in the French market. Its range of solutions extends from leased space in its secured white rooms to global outsourcing of online services and also includes network management, security and managed services. Agarik owns and operates a metro optical network around Paris, connecting 10 main data centers and they lend their expertise to more than 150 customers including many software firms and small, medium and large enterprise companies. The company manages and maintains a 24/7 operation with more than 1300 pieces of equipment including 900 servers in their brand new Data center.

AGARIK recently acquired Soft2You, an addition that reinforced its expertise as an ASP and with Microsoft technologies. In July 2006, AGARIK became a subsidiary of the Bull Group. www.agarik.com / www.bull.com

About Ekinops

Ekinops is a leading designer and supplier of optical transport equipment for service providers and enterprise networks. Our CWDM, DWDM and aggregation solutions are used by major carriers to build Metro, Regional and Long haul networks. Ekinops' optical transport platform relies on an innovative, programmable architecture that substantially lowers the cost of building high speed optical networks. Using Ekinops' 360 carrier-grade products, operators can increase transport capacity over Fiber, CWDM, DWDM, SONET/SDH and IP networks. The company is headquartered in Lannion, France, with sales offices in Europe and the US and a representative office in Singapore. More information about Ekinops is available at www.ekinops.net

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