

PRESS RELEASE

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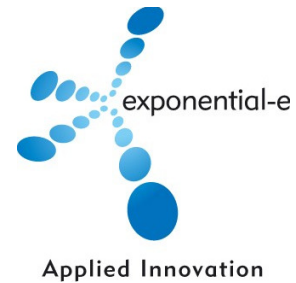
Exponential-e deploys Internet service for medical relief charity, Merlin.

Exponential-e, the Next-Generation-Network and applications provider today announced that it has deployed its highly-popular business Internet service for Merlin – an international charity which gives medical relief to people in need throughout the world. The new service provides Merlin with uncontended Internet, delivered over fibre with symmetric upload and download speeds of 100Mbps. Use of a sophisticated proprietary routing technology makes Exponential-e's Internet service the fastest available in the UK.

Merlin provide healthcare for people at times when they are most in need. The charity's medical teams act fast to help people during emergencies and often these teams work in the world's most difficult and dangerous situations. High-performance business communications are essential to the charity with Internet connectivity critical in being able to stay abreast of developing situations in countries throughout the world.

Mark Hawkins, Technology Manager, Merlin said "Over the past three years, we have been using a 2MB leased line. An increase in staff numbers, more people working from home in the UK and now a need to allow our overseas sites to access centralised systems, we urgently needed more bandwidth. After reviewing the market over a few months, we decided to switch to Exponential-e due to their reliability and speed. This new service runs at 100MB and comes in at a cheaper price than some competitors charge for 10Mb."

Merlin decided to dedicate their entire 100Mbps Ethernet connection to their Internet service given its importance to their organisation. Being fibre-based the solution overcomes the performance issues of internet delivered using copper



based xDSL technology. However should Merlin wish, they could support other services from the same connection in the future using the next-generation convergence characteristics built into the service. The Internet solution is provided using Exponential-e's Route 1™ sampling algorithm which constantly monitors multiple tier 1 Internet providers for the best route across the Internet detecting route congestion, packet loss, latency and jitter over a plethora of available routes. This is more sophisticated than the cruder based metrics used by BGP, such as number of network hops, currently utilised across the industry for route selection.

Merlin decided to manage the service themselves. For those customers requiring it, the solution is also available as a fully managed service. Being an Ethernet service, Merlin is able to connect the service straight into their corporate LAN with no need for reconfiguration.

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About Exponential-e

Exponential-e designs and deploys bespoke network solutions, connecting company LANs regionally, nationally and internationally to create global office networks. Customer networks are created within Exponential-e's VPLS-enabled NGN (known as the Service Creation Platform or SCP) and do not touch the Internet, ensuring they are totally private.

In addition to fast, high capacity, flexible connectivity solutions, companies also access a range of enterprise services and applications which are hosted on the network. Managed and unmanaged storage, voice services, video conferencing, surveillance and colocation, plus some sector specific services are all available through a single access circuit onto the SCP.

As well as its national UK network, Exponential-e has a direct connection into New York, offering desktop-to-desktop transatlantic services. The company also has a number of strategic alliances in place, with like-minded Ethernet carriers, enabling the company to offer end-to-end Ethernet across most of the world.

Exponential-e's network solutions are fast, flexible and secure – giving customers responsive, scalable networks which reduce risks and costs while enhancing their business performance.