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## **iiNet Begins DSL Infrastructure Rollout**

iiNet is pleased to announce the rollout of its own DSL broadband infrastructure following the successful completion of a 3 month customer pilot and feasibility study. The initial rollout will cover 32 exchanges across Australia for approximately 11,000 ports and will replace part of the capacity currently acquired from iiNet's wholesale provider.

iiNet's operating philosophy is to gain customer scale before it deploys its own infrastructure. With more than 50,000 services and as Australia's second largest provider of DSL services iiNet is now in the position to improve the economics of DSL through this deployment.

The capital cost of the initial deployment is expected to be in the order of \$2.3 million. The majority of this infrastructure will be commissioned by October with a second deployment expected to occur in the latter part of the 2004 calendar year.

"The new DSL infrastructure will provide improved service functionality and higher speeds at lower prices than presently available." said iiNet Managing Director Michael Malone. "We successfully deployed our own infrastructure with dial up internet access; we are now doing the same process with DSL. In the future I see the potential to do the same with telephony."

Ericsson's Ethernet DSL Access solution was selected for the rollout due to the scalability of their infrastructure and because of their focus on strong customer support and robust network engineering, values which are similar to those of iiNet.

iiNet is pleased to confirm that the integration of ihug Australia and its latest acquisition, Froggy will be completed and contributing in July. As indicated in half year result announcement iiNet reconfirms its expectation that earnings before interest, taxation and amortisation will be \$14 million in the current half.

### **CONTACTS**

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