



## AUSTRALIAN COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY FORUM

### NEWS RELEASE

#### ACIF VOIP FORUM IDENTIFIES PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

*Forum confirms industry and consumer support for interprovider cooperation on VoIP*

**Sydney, 6 December 2005** -- The Australian Communications Industry Forum (ACIF) today hosted its second annual Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) Forum which brought together carriers, service providers, vendors, integrators, industry associations, government agencies and consumer groups to examine regulatory and technical issues relating to the provision of VoIP.

Issues examined by the participants included quality of service, deployment and security in VoIP. A panel was also convened to consider the implications of the Government's recent report into the policy and regulatory framework for VoIP services.

ACIF CEO Anne Hurley said the forum was fully booked with more than 120 industry and consumer representatives attending to voice their opinions on the best way forward in developing an appropriate regulatory framework for VoIP.

"This has been a resounding vindication of ACIF's belief that our industry has the maturity to tackle difficult issues like VoIP without the need for imposed regulation," Ms Hurley said.

"By taking the initiative and working together cooperatively, we can enhance the consumer experience of emerging technologies as well as promote industry accountability and compliance," Ms Hurley said.

The forum identified the most pressing issues for further action. They include:

- Providing information on all aspects of a VoIP offering and ensuring that all providers are aware of the requirements;
- To develop discussion papers on defining a quality of service for VoIP services and examining issues of interconnection and interoperability;
- Beginning the development of a dictionary of terms used in the VoIP space to provide clarity for all stakeholders.

...ends.



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### **About ACIF**

ACIF is a member-funded organisation established in 1997 to lead industry involvement in defining the regulatory environment.

ACIF provides a neutral forum in which all participants and end-users in the Australian communications industry can work together to foster an efficient, competitive environment through self-regulatory processes, technical codes and standards.

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