



20th October 2009

NEWTEC TO STRENGTHEN MIDDLE EAST PRESENCE WITH MOU SIGNING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF MENOS NETWORK EXTENSION DURING ROYAL VISIT

Newtec is to sign a major Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Arabsat next Sunday October 25 in the Chamber of Commerce in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, which will be witnessed by HRH Prince Philippe of Belgium as part of his Royal visit to the Kingdom.

The MOU with Arabsat will lead to the two companies increasing their co-operation and partnership by jointly developing new markets and technologies in order to promote, sell and implement the latest satellite-based solutions to customers throughout the Middle East. The co-operation will focus primarily on DTH TV, TV contribution and distribution, IP connectivity over satellite and occasional TV and radio exchange.

Arabsat and ASBU will also sign a purchase agreement with Newtec for the implementation of a MENOS network extension. This extension will allow the satellite migration of the existing service on Arabsat BADR4 satellite towards the new Arabsat 5A satellite that will be launched early 2010.

“The signing of this MOU and purchase agreement marks another significant landmark in our growth and ongoing commitment to our customers in the Middle East,” said Serge Van Herck, CEO of Newtec. He added: *“As a company very aware of its Belgian roots and heritage we are also particularly proud of the presence of HRH Prince Philippe on the day. This will make a significant day for Newtec into an unforgettable one and we are very grateful and honoured that he has included this event into his schedule”.*

The MOU and MENOS purchase agreement allowing the network extension are just the latest successes for Newtec in the region, where this week it has a major presence at the GITEX exhibition.

During Sunday’s signing ceremony, Newtec will also present the award it won last month at the IBC Show in Amsterdam – the top outside broadcasting award – to Arabsat and the Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU). The award was given for MENOS (Multimedia Exchange Network over Satellite), Newtec’s revolutionary networking concept used to exchange multimedia content over satellite, allowing broadcasters to share video and audio material among scattered sites in a fully automated and cost efficient way.

Khalid Balkheyour, President and CEO of Arabsat said at the time the award win was announced: *“The introduction of MENOS has been an extremely important milestone for us, the Arab region and the broadcasting industry as a whole. The MENOS service is not only a powerful international exchange platform for radio and television, but a powerful IP based service that is going to revolutionize broadcast transmissions”.*

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ABOUT NEWTEC

www.newtec.eu

Newtec is one of the European market leaders in Satellite Communications, offering highly reliable products and solutions including DVB-S2 modulators and modems, Digital TV & Radio Distribution and Exchange networks, IP Broadband Access Networks as well as software solutions for the optimization of Internet traffic to customers worldwide.

With its ambitious policy of re-investment in R&D, Newtec is recognized as a forerunner in several innovative satellite communication technologies, which have been published as industry standards (DVB, DVB-S2, DVB RCS and iSatTV Cenelec pr EN50478).

Established in 1985, and headquartered in Belgium, the company has regional offices located in Stamford (US), Singapore (Singapore), Beijing (China), Dubai (UAE) and São Paulo (Brazil). Newtec's Tellitec[®] IP software products for Internet traffic optimization and data communication are engineered in Newtec's research and development facilities in Berlin (Germany). Newtec's subsidiary TurboConcept in Brest (France), develops Intellectual Property Cores for turbo and LDPC building blocks.

For more information on Newtec's products and solutions visit **Newtec at GITEX show in Dubai**, booth ZL10, 18-20 October 2009: **www.newtec.eu/Gitex2009**.

ABOUT ARABSAT

www.arabsat.com

Founded in 1976 by the 21 member-states of the Arab League, ARABSAT has been serving the growing needs of the Arab world for over 30 years. It carries over 340 TV channels and 160 Radio stations reaching tens of millions of homes in more than 80 countries across the Middle East, Africa, Europe and way beyond around the world – including an audience of over 164 million viewers in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region alone tuned into Arabsat's video “hotspot” at 26°East. Operating a growing fleet of satellites at the 26°East and 30.5°East positions of the geostationary orbit, ARABSAT is the only satellite operator in the MENA region offering the full spectrum of Broadcast, Telecommunications and Broadband services. This capacity will continue to expand with the launching of new satellites every year till 2012, making the ARABSAT satellite fleet the youngest in the region.

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