

GLOBAL INTERNET VILLAGE CONNECTS WITH THUS

THUS to offer high speed connectivity for green data farm development

24th November, 2008 – THUS, a Cable&Wireless business, is working with Internet Villages International Limited (IVI) and a range of agencies and partners, to develop the world's first green powered Mega Data Farm in the Scottish borders. In addition to providing data centre buildings of various sizes with the huge bandwidth capacity they require. It is also proposed that a development of 1000 new homes will be built and connected with 100Mbps high speed internet access in what will be a fully sustainable live and work community.

IVI, a specialist sustainable property company, is seeking to establish a live work and play development which embraces modern technology and fosters the knowledge based economy. The proposal represents a planned investment of £1.2billion and will result in the creation of 500 jobs in the area. On completion, the 250 acre Data Farm will provide 3 million sq ft of next generation Data Storage and will be the largest of its type in the world.

THUS's involvement in the development is largely due to its high capacity network and significant infrastructure in the South of Scotland following its roll-out of the Pathfinder South project, which delivered high speed internet access to schools and other public sector locations throughout the area. The availability of super fast internet access for IVI will also help foster home based working by telecommuters, freelancers and local micro-businesses and be a significant boost to the regeneration of this rural economy.

The need to reduce company carbon footprints, while at the same time offering significant cost savings, is attractive to many multinational companies. The increasing availability of high bandwidth networks means that Scotland is establishing itself as a first choice location for Data Centre infrastructure and IVI is seeking to position itself to take advantage of increasing global demand for secure next generation Data Storage.

Steve White Marketing Director of IVI said: “What we are proposing is the world’s first, sustainable live, work and play community based around the development of a large scale Data Storage facility. We believe that with the advent of Cloud Computing and Containerised Data Storage, our next generation Data Farm will transform the rural economy of Dumfries & Galloway and propel Scotland to the forefront of the global Data Storage sector. More importantly, the location offers the potential for us to do this in a way which minimises impact on the environment and creates a connected community that is both carbon-neutral and self sustaining. We trust that THUS can deliver a network infrastructure that meets our stringent criteria for capacity, scalability and robustness using advanced, proven technologies.”

Jesper Lauridsen, Managing Director at THUS, a Cable&Wireless business, said: “Reliable and resilient telecoms infrastructure is a cornerstone of any data centre development and we are delighted to be working with Internet Villages International to help propel Scotland to the forefront of this industry. THUS’s significant network presence in the area thanks to the Pathfinder project, together with its unrivalled bandwidth capacity, makes it ideally placed to support this exciting and ambitious development giving businesses with burgeoning carbon footprints and data storage costs the chance to boost their green credentials while saving money. “

IVI chose Scotland as the ideal location for hosting the Data Farm primarily because of the availability and proximity of a range of diverse renewable energy resources, its favourable climate, competitive land prices and highly skilled IT workforce. The development will maximise energy efficiency in the design, construction and operation of the facilities but significantly, will supply 100% renewable energy via four diverse power feeds. In addition, waste energy will be recycled to power local homes and adjacent horticultural businesses driving the overall development towards becoming carbon neutral.

ENDS

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Notes to Editors

About THUS

THUS, a Cable&Wireless business, is a UK-focused business telecommunications company with a strong belief in its people and the services it provides to customers. We have a world-class next-generation network (NGN), enabling us to deliver innovative and effective solutions to organisations in the fast changing communications environment. Our early implementation of MPLS IP VPN technology has put us at the forefront of convergent solutions since the beginning, giving us the expertise that our customers need today and in the future.

Under our Demon brand, we are also able to offer a full suite of advanced business communication services to small and medium-sized enterprises, ranging from broadband and MPLS to high speed Internet and VoIP.

For further information visit <http://www.thus.net>, <http://www.my-cw-portal.com> and <http://www.demon.net>.