

News Release



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Columbus Networks makes official debut in Panama; offers new telecom choice

CIUDAD DE PANAMA, Panama – (March 26, 2009) – Columbus Networks today announced it has completed a multi-million U.S. dollar network integration with SkyOnline de Panama and changed the name of the Panama company to take advantage of Columbus Communications’ strong brand appeal in the Pan-American Caribbean region.

Columbus Networks in Panama City offers businesses a new choice for advanced business data communications and high-speed Internet access at competitive prices. The company plans to introduce other business telecommunications services later this year.

Columbus Networks is retaining local employees and leadership to continue managing the Panama business. The company also hired new operations and support employees to improve customer care and satisfaction.



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Since acquiring SkyOnline last August, Columbus Networks has invested more than \$4.0 million to overhaul the company’s local network infrastructure in Ciudad de Panama with new technology and equipment upgrades.

The Panama in-country network is now connected to Columbus Networks’ owned international fiber optic networks. This provides customers in Ciudad de Panama multiple route choices and instant scalability for end-to-end communications services from Panama to any other destination to USA and the Pan-American Caribbean region. Columbus Networks owns multiple undersea fiber optic networks that connect the United States with Central and South America and the Caribbean.

Columbus Networks, which is actively pursuing a growth-through-acquisitions strategy, acquired SkyOnline last August. The company looks for complementary, long-term growth businesses that have good reputations and do a good job addressing customer needs.

“Before changing the company’s name, we wanted to ensure the network and operation support systems in Ciudad de Panama stood up to the high quality service standards that Columbus Communications demands from all of its operating units,” said Paul W. Scott, president and chief operating officer of Columbus Networks.

“Our customers in Panama now are served by one of the most modern IP-based communications networks that offers improved performance, reliability and scalability,” Scott said. “The network improvements and upgrades we just completed give us flexibility for growth and expansion into other Panama cities where there is business demand.”

To mark its official debut in Panama, Columbus Networks is hosting a private reception Thursday evening for about 200 current business customers and government officials in Ciudad de Panama.

Until its entry into Panama, Miami-based Columbus Networks provided wholesale high-capacity transport communications services to in-country telecommunications companies and Internet service providers. Now Columbus Networks is poised to directly service business customers in Ciudad de Panama.

“Panama is an attractive venue for growth, in spite of the global economic turmoil,” Scott said. “Our strong balance sheet allows for local investments plus ongoing access to corporate and capital resources that enable us to capitalize on the growth opportunities during recessionary times.”

Columbus Communications Inc., based in Bridgetown, Barbados, acquired Columbus Networks in September 2005. The company has been investing heavily on network improvements and expansion to position itself as the communications provider of choice throughout the Pan-American Caribbean region.

About Columbus Networks

Columbus Networks is a wholesale communications service provider that offers advanced, high-speed bandwidth capacity to telecommunications companies and Internet Service Providers. Columbus Networks is the largest subsea fiberoptic communications company connecting the United States, Mexico, Central America, South America and the Caribbean. The company’s undersea fiber optic networks span more than 18,000 kilometers of cable routes including Americas Region Caribbean Optical-ring System (ARCOS-1), Colombia – Florida Express (CFX), EC-Link cable system, Caribbean Crossings, Fibralink and Maya. Columbus Networks is a subsidiary of Columbus Communications based in Bridgetown, Barbados. Columbus Networks is based in North Miami, Florida. The company’s website is www.columbus-networks.com. Telephone: 1-786-274-7400.

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