

# News Release



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## **Columbus Networks to Offer International MPLS in Caribbean**

*Affiliates FLOW and Cable Bahamas first to offer expanded business networking services*

WASHINGTON – (June 1, 2009) – Columbus Networks says it has introduced MPLS technology over its undersea fiber-optic network allowing businesses in the Caribbean to improve the use and efficiency of their private wide area networks. The company made the announcement Monday during the [International Telecoms Week](#) conference in Washington, D.C.

A wholesale provider, Columbus Networks is offering the premium service with quality-of-service guarantees to its affiliate companies FLOW and Cable Bahamas. Columbus Networks, FLOW and Cable Bahamas are subsidiaries of [Columbus Communications Inc.](#)

Columbus Networks plans to extend its full suite of MPLS network services later this year to other countries and service providers in the Pan-American and Caribbean Region.

“MPLS has become the de facto technology standard for networking because it provides instant flexibility, improved reliability and great scalability,” said Paul Scott, president of Columbus Networks. “Our completely new dedicated MPLS network provides up to four classes of service that allows business customers to tag and prioritize their communications traffic end to end across their entire networks.”

Flow and Cable Bahamas, which offer cable television, digital phone service and high speed Internet access in [Jamaica](#), [Grenada](#), and [Trinidad](#) and the [Bahamas](#), respectively, already have in-country MPLS gateways. The interconnection with Columbus Networks allows them to offer to their business customers a full suite of on-net, end-to-end International MPLS services to the United States and several other countries in the region.

MPLS, short for Multi Protocol Label Switching, helps multi-site businesses better manage their branch-to-branch and remote connections. It helps businesses avoid network congestion problems by tagging and prioritizing data communications traffic. Network bottlenecks and data traffic congestion bog down communications applications such as VoIP phone calls. This affects applications performance and business productivity.

Customers pick and choose priorities for their applications traffic. Generally, the first priority is reserved for mission-critical applications such as voice calls. Many businesses assign lower priority classes for non-essential business applications such as Internet surfing.

Columbus Networks' MPLS service portfolio includes Layer 3 Virtual Private Network (L3VPN), and Layer 2 Virtual Private Network options: Ethernet Virtual Private Lines (EVPL), and Virtual Private LAN services (VPLS).

Columbus invested more than \$1 million for carrier-grade network routers manufactured by Juniper Networks to launch its new MPLS network. Additional investments are planned to expand reach to other countries in the 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 operates the largest subsea fiber-optic communications network 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 wholly owned 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](http://www.columbus-networks.com). Telephone: 1-786-274-7400

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