

10 December 2007

### ***PIPE Networks' metropolitan network reaches 1001km***

Rising telco PIPE Networks (ASX:PWK) now has over 1001km of fibre network cable installed in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. This figure represents a 1600% growth in network size since its IPO in April 2005, when there were just 61km across Brisbane and Sydney.

The colossal growth is in response to demand for dark fibre by corporate and government, who find the reliability and capacity suited to their needs. PIPE Networks' dark fibre is not powered by a single watt of electricity, it is pure glass and therefore unaffected by power loss. Unlike other carriers that utilise second grade overhead fibre networks, susceptible to trucks, buses, lightning strikes, storm damage and sulphur crested cockatoos, every metre of PIPE Networks' fibre network is underground. When ordered in a physically diverse configuration, PIPE Networks provides a 99.999% Service Level Guarantee.

Demand remains strong for the use of fibre for disaster recovery, and there is also a steady rise in its use to network offices together and provide ultra high speed internet. Businesses are throwing out their legacy ATM/SDH and frame connectivity and upgrading to dark fibre. One PIPE Networks customer recently upgraded their frame relay service, and in a quarter of the time the incumbent telco required to perform a bandwidth upgrade, PIPE Networks installed new dark fibre services. The customer increased their bandwidth from 2Mbps to 1000Mbps, while saving on their monthly communications bill.

PIPE Networks' Managing Director, **Bevan Slattery** is forecasting continued strong growth in the network over the next 5 years. *"Businesses are recognising the capacity, speed and reliability of fibre and the demand across Australia has been very high. We're continually planning expansions to our network to meet this demand,"* says Mr Slattery.

PIPE Networks is fast becoming the networking choice of corporate and Government departments. It is Australia's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest metropolitan fibre network, and fast approaching Optus and Telstra in metropolitan footprint reach.

### ***ENDS***

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