



## **Aastra and Internet2 Expand Internet2 NET+ SIP Services**

### ***New Voicemail-Only Option Provides Migration Flexibility for Internet2 Members***

**Fall 2012 Internet2 Member Meeting, Philadelphia, PA – Oct. 1, 2012** -- [Internet2](#), operator of the nation's fastest, coast-to-coast research and education network, and [Aastra](#), a leading company at the forefront of the enterprise communication market, have added a new option to the Internet2 NET+ SIP Services offering announced at the Spring 2012 Internet2 Member Meeting in Washington, D.C. Aastra and Internet2 are now adding a Voicemail-Only option, Clearspan Unified Messaging (UM), for those campuses that are not yet ready to move all their communications to a cloud service.

Internet2 NET+ SIP Services, originally announced in April, includes Hosted PBX Services powered by Aastra Clearspan<sup>®</sup> and SIP Trunking from Level 3 Communications. This service eliminates the need for millions of dollars in capital expense to create a private communications network on an institution's campus.

The Internet2 NET+ SIP Services are part of a portfolio of offerings from Internet2 designed to leverage the Internet2 Network – the world's first transcontinental network deployment of 100G technology. The Internet2 NET+ SIP Services are cost-effective, easy to access, simple to administer, and tailored to the unique needs of the research and education community. The goal is for every service deployment to result in a better-yielding, tailored voice service leveraging the shared needs and common demand of members – ultimately providing services of much greater value than campuses could receive by pursuing them individually.

"Internet2 NET+ SIP Services have received a tremendous response thus far; over 150 people from nearly 100 institutions have expressed interest," stated Shel Waggener, senior vice president, Internet2. "Migrating a core communication service like voice to a cloud-based service takes planning and coordination to manage the timing with budgeting cycles and existing contracts while planning the sunsetting of legacy PBX systems. The new NET+ Clearspan UM-only option allows campuses to take their first step for voice in the cloud by offering productivity tools to their constituents now."

Clearspan UM can be deployed as a stand-alone application in conjunction with an institution's existing PBX. Clearspan Unified Messaging goes beyond classic voicemail and provides users with the flexibility to use and manage their messaging service from anywhere, and over any interface. Clearspan messaging provides all of the features of a traditional voice messaging solution, as well as message delivery to any specified email account, fax messaging, and much more.

"We have created this Clearspan UM-only offering to allow organizations to start enjoying the productivity benefits of a unified messaging solution immediately," said Aastra's Tim Whittington, Regional President North America. "Clearspan's Unified Messaging application can be deployed into the existing environment, allowing the institution to keep their existing PBX, phones and other applications. Then when the time is right to move to a full VoIP environment, the institution can add the rest of the Hosted Clearspan solution as their communications platform. End users won't have to learn a new interface and the institution can maximize their investment."

"It's great to be able to put another option in front of the Internet2 members," said Charlie McMahon, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Technology Officer, Tulane University. "This UM-only solution offers great productivity for end-users and significant savings for the Education and Research institutions, particularly at a time when many are facing end-of-life with their voicemail systems."

Aastra executives will be demonstrating their Hosted PBX solution, along with Clearspan Unified Messaging, at the Fall 2012 Internet2 Member Meeting at the Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel, October 1-4. For additional information visit [www.internet2.edu/sip](http://www.internet2.edu/sip).

## **About Aastra USA**

Aastra USA Inc. is the US business unit of Aastra Technologies Limited (TSX:AAH), a company at the forefront of the enterprise communication market. Headquartered in Concord, Ontario, Canada, Aastra develops and delivers innovative communications products and applications for businesses. Aastra's operations are truly global with more than 50 million installed lines around the world and a direct and indirect presence in more than 100 countries. Aastra is entirely dedicated to enterprise communications and offers IP telephony and Unified Communications solutions individually tailored to satisfy its customers' requirements. These range from feature-rich call managers for small and medium businesses and highly scalable ones for large enterprises, associated UC applications, integrated mobility, multimedia call center solutions and high definition video communications to a wide selection of desk phones and cordless terminals. With a strong focus on open standards, Aastra enables enterprises to communicate

and collaborate more efficiently. For additional information on Aastra, visit our website at [www.aastrausa.com](http://www.aastrausa.com).

## **About Internet2**

Internet2® is a member-owned advanced technology community founded by the nation's leading higher education institutions in 1996. Internet2 provides a collaborative environment for U.S. research and education organizations to solve common technology challenges, and to develop innovative solutions in support of their educational, research, and community service missions. For more information, visit [www.internet2.edu](http://www.internet2.edu).

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