



**For immediate release
June 4, 2010**

Showcased to broadcast industry in Las Vegas

Successful testing of HD broadcast over Ontario's research network

TORONTO – Toronto's Ryerson University has completed testing of high definition IP video technology over ORION that broadcasters could use to stream live content from remote sites to production studios over IP networks, instead of satellites.

The Ontario Research and Innovation Optical Network (ORION) is Ontario's advanced research and education network, which supports and enables new and innovative next-generation technologies in research, education, science and digital media.

Ryerson's Richard Grunberg, Director of Photography, Head of Video, and Assistant Professor in the School of Radio and Television Arts, is spearheading the research, looking at the feasibility of using HD video streaming technology to support transmittal of broadcast quality content on IP networks. Grunberg's research team recently completed testing in a demonstration project which involved Ryerson, Laurentian University in Sudbury and TFO - Ontario's French-language educational public television network - in Toronto, using new low-latency technology developed by HAIVISION of Montreal.

"Our testing went exceptionally well. I believe we proved the technology a viable option to satellite," he said. "Broadcasters have long been looking for alternatives to microwave and satellite technologies due to high costs of satellite time and hardware and complex setup. Thanks to advances in higher speed networks such as ORION, we will have these lower costs options."

Grunberg demonstrated the concept at this year's National Association of Broadcasters Convention in Las Vegas, where it was well received by other educational establishments and broadcasters interested in participating in further testing and use. The test involved HAIVISION's MAKO-HD video encoding technology. What makes the technology unique, says Grunberg, is its ability to transmit and encode HD video and audio at extremely low (as low as 70 millisecond) latency, which is ideal for a production-quality workflow, especially on a network like ORION.

TFO was well suited for the testing, says Grunberg. It schedules broadcast interviews from Ontario colleges and universities quite a distance away from its studio operation, such as Laurentian in Sudbury. Advanced technology now allows broadcasters to use IP-based video broadcast solutions and consider integrating low-latency HD video streaming technology to transmit live or other content from multiple locations.

ORION encourages the use of ORION as a test-bed for new and emerging technologies says Phil Baker, ORION President and CEO. "This is an ideal demonstration of ORION and its capabilities and we're pleased to be part of this research," he said.

View a video clip describing the research on Circumventing Satellite for Live HD Broadcast interviews
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SS5J_WiibQ

About ORION

The Ontario Research and Innovation Optical Network (ORION) is Ontario's ultra high-speed research and education network. It links 1.7 million Ontario researchers, scientists, students, teachers and staff who depend on ORION for teaching and learning and to enable their research collaborations and discoveries in physics, cancer research, environmental science and technologies, social sciences and the humanities and multiple other disciplines. ORION links users and institutions to each other, and through CANARIE - Canada's advanced research and innovation network - to high-capacity research and education networks, partners and collaborators across Canada and around the world. Visit www.orion.on.ca.

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