Press Release

NOAA Laboratory Uses StarDot Network Camera to Send North Pole Images to the World Wide Web

May 3, 2002 Test Image

Seattle, Washington. July 6, 2002- The National Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration's (**NOAA**) Pacific Marine Environment Laboratory (**PMEL**), today announced the operational status of a North Pole based wireless Network Camera (NetCam™). The camera is sending pictures of an automated weather station left behind by NOAA arctic researchers. The NetCam™, manufactured by StarDot Technologies is sending live pictures to the Internet for research purposes and public viewing at www.arctic.noaa.gov.

RadarSat Image of Arctic Region

"We are honored to have been selected by **NOAA** to provide the imaging solution for this important mission. The excellent PMEL scientific team headed by Dr. Overland and Bill Parker made this complicated task look easy," said Vance Kozik, Project Manager. "The fact that the camera is essentially an off-the-shelf-unit meant cost savings for the government and fast delivery to NOAA." he added.

"Much credit for the success of this operation must go to Oceantronics of Honolulu. Fritz Amtsberg and his fine team recommended StarDot and designed the System," commented James Chan, StarDot's President.

"The fact that I can sit at my computer here in California and change camera settings at the North Pole demonstrates the versatility of NetCam," added Vance Kozik

"After an extensive search it was evident that StarDot Technologies not only had the right camera but the capability to integrate the camera with the Iridium modem," said Fritz Amtsberg, Vice President of Oceantronics. "Vance Kozik provided the integration and the camera for the project. Without his help there would be no camera at the North Pole at this time," he added.

The **ArcticCam** utilizes the StarDot Technologies NetCam™, which is an IP addressable network camera that does not require a PC to connect to the Internet. **ArcticCam** is

sending images of several NOAA weather instruments and the Arctic Ice Pack at the North Pole through the Iridium satellite every six hours. The time between images is used to build up enough electrical energy, from the solar cell power supply, to be able to send the images to the satellites. The iridium constellation of Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites is the only system with coverage of Polar Regions. Images can be viewed at: http://www.arctic.noaa.gov

About StarDot Technologies

Founded in 1989, StarDot built upon its impressive engineering talent to become the premier manufacturer of affordable high-resolution network cameras for the remote monitoring industry worldwide. This business sector includes tourism, security, construction, education, government and many other users who need high-resolution image capturing and processing. Its product line includes **NetCam™**, an integrated camera and web server, **Video Server**, a device that connects up to six video cameras to a network. In addition, it produces special NetCams™ combined with Weather stations, Gamma radiation monitors, and other special instruments to meet the remote monitoring needs of Industry and Government.

StarDot's new **Wireless NetCams**™ give users a choice of remote global access though the Iridium system, ground based national access through wireless data networks, and local access through 802.11b (WiFi) networks. Its products are sold through international distributors and through its direct sales staff. For more information, go to www.stardot-tech.com.

About PMEL

The Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory (PMEL) is part of **NOAA**, which operates under the U.S. Department of Commerce.

PMEL aids NOAA's mission through its interdisciplinary scientific investigations in oceanographic and atmospheric science. Results from PMEL research activities contribute to NOAA's strategic goals of implementing seasonal-to-interannual climate forecasts, assessing and predicting decadal to centennial climate change, advancing short-term warning and forecast services, and building sustainable fisheries.

The Laboratory Headquarters is located at 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115 More information about the many important research projects being conducted by PMEL can be found at www.pmel.noaa.gov.

About Oceantronics

Oceantronics is a, Hawaii based, full service provider of marine electronics and communications equipment. It has been one of the principal suppliers of scientific data

collection and transmission systems to PMEL since 1994. The company has delivered over 50 systems to NOAA for the Arctic research program. The company also integrates commercial radars, GPS's and other products on to Navy ships. Its SeaPlot™ system is probably the most successful commercial installation ever on Navy ships. It is now operational on 40 ships. Oceantronics also integrates Telemetry related equipment into systems for the major Test Ranges- e.g. the Pacific Missile Range Facility.

More information about Oceantronics capabilities can be found at:
http://www.oceantronics.net/17POLE.htm

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