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**Telecom Italia is Europe’s First CE 2.0 Company**

**April 16 2013:** The MEF today announces that Telecom Italia has become the first European Service Provide to achieve CE 2.0 certification.

“The MEF views the Carrier Ethernet 2.0 certification program as a very important chapter in the evolution of standardised Carrier Ethernet services. I believe it will open up new services and markets for Telecom Italia,” said Nan Chen, President of the MEF, at the organization’s Quarterly Meeting in Frankfurt as he congratulated Mario Bianchetti, Senior Program Manager and Daniele Accetta, Primary Technical Contact.

“CE 2.0 is a very significant milestone for Telecom Italia,” said Mario Bianchetti. “It enables us to rapidly deploy standardised services to our enterprise and wholesale customers, with increased Quality of Service, stricter SLAs and more predictable SLS.”

Italy has seen significant growth in Carrier Ethernet Services in recent years, with some analysts\* predicting a $1.1bn market for the Enterprise Market alone in the country by 2018, up from $0.6bn in 2010. Italy is the 4th largest Carrier Ethernet market in Europe by revenue.

“Our international wholesale customers are increasingly specifying CE 2.0 as part of their tender process, so we are delighted to be the first in Europe to be able to offer the service,” concludes Fabio Randone, who oversees the design of new services for Telecom Italia Wholesale Services Innovation & Consulting .

**About The MEF:**

The MEF is a global industry alliance comprising more than 200 organizations including telecommunications service providers, cable MSOs, network equipment/software manufacturers, semiconductors vendors and testing organizations. The MEF’s mission is to accelerate the worldwide adoption of Carrier-class Ethernet networks and services. The MEF develops Carrier Ethernet technical specifications and implementation agreements to promote interoperability and deployment of Carrier Ethernet worldwide.

For more information about the Forum, including a complete listing of all current MEF members, please visit the MEF web site at <http://www.MetroEthernetForum.org/>