



Contact Information:

Rich Kendall, CEO
Sovernet Communications
(802) 460-9123

Jim Becker, CEO
ION
(518) 689-4550

Sovernet Communications Acquires Majority Interest in Albany, NY-based ION.

BELLOWS FALLS, VT (August 14, 2008) --- Sovernet Communications, a subsidiary of Atlantic Tele-Network (ATNI-NASDAQ), is pleased to announce it has acquired a majority interest in Albany, NY-based ION, a provider of high capacity communications network transport services, in partnership with twelve rural telephone companies in up-state New York.

ION's network, comprised of 2,200 miles of redundant SONET fiber-optic facilities, connects over 60 rural New York State communities such as Prattsburgh, Margaretville and Champlain to major communications hubs in Syracuse, Buffalo, Rochester, Albany and New York City.

ION was founded on the vision and investment of the affiliates of the Independent Telephone Companies that have been supporting customers in rural upstate New York for over 1,000 years collectively and will continue to hold a significant minority interest in the business.

Rich Kendall, Sovernet's President and CEO stated that "This investment fits nicely into our core strategy of delivering high quality network services to the traditionally underserved rural areas. We are very excited to be expanding into this new market with ION's staff and its loyal customers."

"ION's staff and founders are very pleased to become partners with Sovernet and Atlantic Tele-Network. We believe their expertise, operational support, and financial backing will enhance ION's capabilities to offer reliable, advanced communications services to carriers and institutions that do business in rural New York state." says Jim Becker, ION's Chief Executive Officer.

About Sovernet Communications:

Founded in 1995, Sovernet Communications is Northern New England's locally operated provider of residential and business telecommunications services. Sovernet is a subsidiary of Atlantic Tele-Network, which is traded on NASDAQ under the ATNI symbol. For more information, please visit www.sover.net or www.atni.com.

About ION:

Additional information regarding ION, including a network map and description of the services it provides are available at: <http://www.i-o-n.com/>.