Cisco Commits More Than US$2Million to Support Open Internet Standards Development

IETF defines the standards for the global network that connects more than 2 billion people

[Washington, D.C. and Geneva, Switzerland] – 23 July 2013 – The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the Internet's premier standards organization, and Cisco, the worldwide leader in information technology, today announced an agreement to provide up to US$2.2 million in support for the IETF's work and meetings through 2019.

The IETF brings together leading Internet engineers and technologists from around the world to develop standards that form the foundation of the global Internet and enable yet unimagined products and services. The IETF developed the standards for capabilities such as internationalized domain names, email, and instant messaging. Since its first meeting was held on January 16, 1986 in San Diego, California, the IETF has published more than 4500 documents that describe standards for the fundamental technologies and widely used services on today's global Internet.

The IETF is open to any interested individual and seeks broad participation from across the globe. While the work of the IETF mainly takes place online to reduce barriers to participation and to maximize contributions from around the world, its meetings bring together over 1000 participants. Cisco's commitment of more than US$2 million will provide support for both in-person meetings and remote participation technology to enable even broader participation in the IETF.

"The IETF is focused on developing timely, relevant, and technically excellent open standards that provide a platform for the continued growth and evolution of the global Internet," said Jari Arkko, Chair of the IETF. "Unique among standards organizations, the IETF invites all interested parties to participate, and makes every draft and final standards available online without charge. Cisco's support will help to further expand participation in the IETF by encouraging involvement in meetings in-person and through collaboration technology built on IETF-developed standards."

The Internet Society is the administrative home of the IETF. With its commitment, Cisco is recognized as the Internet Society's newest Corporate Partner. Corporate Partnership is a special program developed by the Internet Society to recognize organizations that have provided support that warrants the highest level of value and recognition, and a customized method for mapping a longer-term strategy across multiple areas of support.

"We welcome Cisco's expanding commitment to the IETF as it reflects the strategic importance that open Internet standards represent for continued

economic and social development around the world," said Lynn St. Amour, President and CEO of the Internet Society.

About the Internet Engineering Task Force
The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) is the Internet's premier technical standards body. It gathers a large open international community of network designers, engineers, operators, vendors, and researchers concerned with the evolution of the Internet architecture and the smooth operation of the Internet. The IETF seeks broad participation. The work of the IETF takes place online, largely through email lists, reducing barriers to participation and maximizing contributions from around the world. IETF Working Groups (WGs) are organized by topic into several areas (e.g., routing, transport, security, etc.).

For more information, see: http://www.ietf.org/

About the Internet Society
The Internet Society is the trusted independent source for Internet information and thought leadership from around the world. With its principled vision and substantial technological foundation, the Internet Society promotes open dialogue on Internet policy, technology, and future development among users, companies, governments, and other organizations. Working with its members and Chapters around the world, the Internet Society enables the continued evolution and growth of the Internet for everyone. For more information, see: http://www.internetsociety.org

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