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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ciena Partners with Telamon to Bring High Speed Broadband Access and 4G Wireless Services to Navajo Nation

Stimulus funded network will provide broadband connectivity for local government, schools, healthcare, public safety and other organizations, as well as backhaul of advanced 4G wireless services

LINTHICUM, Md. and INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – May 17, 2011 – [Ciena](#)[®] Corporation (NASDAQ: CIEN), the network specialist, today announced that it has partnered with [Telamon Corporation](#), a value-added distributor, system integrator and reseller of telecommunication products, to bring high-speed broadband access and 4G wireless services to the Navajo Nation. Initiated by the [Navajo Tribal Utility Authority \(NTUA\)](#) and funded by a federal stimulus grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration’s Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), the new next-generation network will include 550 miles of new aerial fiber-optic cable and 59 new or modified microwave towers to connect the Navajo Nation across a 27,000 square mile service area.

NTUA is a non-profit, multi-utility company that provides electric, water, wastewater, natural gas and solar-powered services to the Navajo Nation in the states of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah – the largest Indian reservation in the United States. NTUA also owns, operates and maintains a comprehensive communications infrastructure in support of its utility services. The NTUA project is intended to enable area service providers to deliver affordable voice, video, data and cellular services to nearly 30,000 households, 1,000 businesses and an additional 1,100 anchor institutions, including 49 Chapter Houses that serve as community centers, at speeds from 10MBps to 10Gbps.

“This project will certainly close the wireless technological gap that currently exists here in the southwest. This improvement opens many doors that will bring progress to our region,” said Walter Haase, NTUA General Manager. “This is progress for the Navajo Nation, our people, our children, and our businesses in terms of economic development. This is a significant progressive step forward.”

Last mile wireless services will be offered at speeds between 1 and 3Mbps through the project's wireless partner Commnet Wireless, LLC. The new network will enable public safety, health, social services and emergency care facilities, as well as local government and administration offices to deliver distance learning, telemedicine, security monitoring, SCADA services, and other advanced applications not possible with the current infrastructure.

“The NTUA’s new high-speed broadband network, along with advanced 4G wireless services, will bring sorely needed Internet access to the Navajo Nation, providing greater opportunity to the Navajo People for economic development and to improve quality of life for residents throughout the region,” said Rob Sterrenberg, vice president and general manager, Optical Networks for Telamon. “Both Telamon and Ciena are uniquely positioned to deliver these advantages, with Ciena’s broad technology portfolio and our collective expertise in integrating large, diverse networks across variable terrain.”

The Navajo Nation’s new converged optical Ethernet network will be connected by Ciena’s comprehensive suite of packet-optical transport and Carrier Ethernet solutions, including the [ActivSpan 4200 Advanced Services Platform](#), [ActivFlex 6130 Multiservice Optical Platform](#), [ActivEdge 3960 Service Aggregation Switch](#), [ActivEdge 5150 Service Aggregation Switch](#) and [ActivEdge 3911 Service Delivery Switch](#), all managed via elements from Ciena’s leading-edge network management software to provide the network backbone, “middle mile” service architecture and cellular backhaul infrastructure. Telamon has been a valued and trusted Solution Provider partner in Ciena’s [BizConnect](#) global partner program since 1996.

“We are excited to work with Telamon to deliver a comprehensive, next generation communications infrastructure to the Navajo Nation and help spur the economic growth and development that can only come from high-speed internet access,” said Theresa Caragol, vice president, Global Alliances and Partners at Ciena. “Now that grant money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is starting to flow through, projects like the NTUA and others are coming to fruition, and will no doubt provide a positive, lasting impact on America’s communities for years to come.”

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About Telamon Corporation

Telamon Corporation is a value-added distributor of telecommunication products plus a global provider of integrated supply chain and technology deployment services. For more information on Telamon, visit www.telamon.com.

About Ciena

Ciena is the network specialist. We collaborate with customers worldwide to unlock the strategic potential of their networks and fundamentally change the way they perform and compete. With focused innovation, Ciena brings together the reliability and capacity of optical networking with the flexibility and economics of Ethernet, unified by a software suite that delivers the industry's leading network automation. We routinely post recent news, financial results and other important announcements and information about Ciena on our website. For more information, visit www.ciena.com.

Note to Ciena Investors

Forward-looking statements. This press release contains certain forward-looking statements based on current expectations, forecasts and assumptions that involve risks and uncertainties. These statements are based on information available to the Company as of the date hereof; and Ciena's actual results could differ materially from those stated or implied, due to risks and uncertainties associated with its business, which include the risk factors disclosed in its Report on Form 10-Q, which Ciena filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 10, 2011. Forward-looking statements include statements regarding Ciena's expectations, beliefs, intentions or strategies regarding the future and can be identified by forward-looking words such as "anticipate," "believe," "could," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "should," "will," and "would" or similar words. Ciena assumes no obligation to update the information included in this press release, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.