



Press Release

CHINA AND FRANCE SIGN IPv6 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO ACCELERATE NEW GENERATION INTERNET DEVELOPMENT

Beijing, May 18, 2005 – Chinese Minister of Information Industry (MII), Wang Xudong, and French Minister of Industry, Patrick Devedjan, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) yesterday, specifically on IPv6 collaboration to accelerate the industrialization of new applications and services for the new generation Internet. The MoU, marking the first of several planned cooperatives under a global Sino-Franco ICT MoU proposed a year ago, was officialized at MII, villa Diao Yu tai, Beijing, before an official visiting French delegation of top IT industry leaders including 6WIND, Alcatel, France Telecom, and Thomson.

Recognizing IPv6 as the cornerstone technology in the deployment of new generation communications networks and an engine for the acceleration of ICT uses at large, the IPv6 MoU will cover the following areas for cooperation:

- ▶ Research, promotion and commercialization
- ▶ New network architecture and equipment design
- ▶ Equipment testing and standards
- ▶ Best practices on deployment and business model
- ▶ Address allocation policies

6WIND's visiting delegate and chairman, Patrick Cocquet, who is also President of the French IPv6 Task Force, said, "The MoU marks an important bilateral milestone and reflects the strong engagement of both governments to acknowledge the importance of IPv6 in bringing ICT benefits to a larger spectrum of users. I am particularly thankful to the French Ministry of Industry for recognizing and leveraging the early developments, experience and initial industry successes of pioneers such as 6WIND and France Telecom towards shaping the IPv6 MoU framework. Both have been involved in CNGI's trial project, 6TNet, from the beginning and have actively participated in various national and European dual-IP initiatives on new network architectures, services and technical specifications."

He added that on a parallel initiative, 6WIND had also formalized, through an innovative business model, a research and development partnership with the China Academy of Science (Institute of Acoustics) for building new Internet solutions based on 6WIND's IP-agnostic software and hoped this will be the first of many partnerships to come for the company and the industry.

To boost momentum, a series of meetings and visits have been organized in conjunction with the MoU for industry players on both sides to explore concrete IPv6 collaborations and build a Sino-Franco ecosystem of operators, ISPs, solution vendors, research institutes, standards bodies and universities.

About 6WIND

6WIND is the undisputed leader and innovator of advanced IP-agnostic* networking software for OEM licensing. The company's flagship technology, 6WINDGate™, enables network equipment providers to significantly cut development time and costs, simplify network application integration and accelerate the go-to-market process of new generation multi-services and secure networking equipment. 6WINDGate™-empowered devices are used worldwide in advanced dual IP projects on mobility, WLAN, interoperability, and secure broadband access by major industrial corporations, ISPs and telecommunication operators, public services, state bodies and the academia.

6WIND was the first European company to receive the global IPv6-ready logo. A European Information Society Technology 2004 award winner, it was also named a "Leader of Innovation", Europe in 2005. The company is a spin-out of Thales (HO.FP) with headquarters in France and sales offices in Asia.
<http://www.6wind.com>

*** Internet Protocol version agnostic, refers to the ability of 6WINDGate to support seamless networking on any IP infrastructure without favoring IPv4 or IPv6 since it was developed ground-up to support both.**

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