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Metrozet Announces New Product for Broadband Seismic Networks

Torrance, CA – February 7, 2007 – Metrozet LLC announced today the immediate availability of a new high performance sensor product for broadband seismic network operators. The STS1-E300 is an advanced electronics package that provides a modern replacement for the original Streckeisen STS-1 "Feedback Electronics" boxes. It matches the outstanding analog performance of the original system, while providing a number of enhancements that make installation and operation of the sensors more efficient within a modern seismic network. The STS1-E300 offers a modern interface and new level of reliability for the global installed base of high performance very broadband seismometers used in applications including geophysical research, earthquake monitoring, tsunami warning systems, and nuclear test ban treaty verification.

Features include digital control of all STS-1 sensor parameters (corner frequency and damping, with a new 2 second setup mode), remote digital control of centering motor operations (including a new, one-step "Auto Center" capability), and a digitally-controlled diagnostic function that allows remote monitoring of all major instrument state-of-health parameters (including critical power supply voltages, boom position, signal output levels, motor switch state, electronics temperature, and a number of auxiliary, analog and digital input lines). All of the control and diagnostic functions can be controlled locally (via RS-232, USB, or Ethernet), or remotely (via Ethernet).

Developed with support from IRIS (www.iris.edu), and in collaboration with the Berkeley Seismological Laboratory (UC Berkeley) and the Professor Erhard Wielandt (co-inventor of the STS-1), the STS1-E300 will provide a critical resource for extending the operational lifetime of the world's highest performance broadband seismometers (the Streckeisen STS-1).

According to Tom VanZandt, Product Manager for the STS1-E300, "the decision by G. Streckeisen AG [Switzerland] to cease production and full-scale support of the STS-1 product caused a significant shock in the user community, particularly as the installed base of sensors is aging rapidly, and as clear problems in the performance of these sensors have become evident. Metrozet has made a strategic decision to provide superior products and customer service to this community. As our first product, STS1-E300 will help to solve some of the major operational problems currently plaguing the worldwide instrument fleet. These include failures within obsolete electronic modules, significant environmental packaging problems in the original electronics, lack of modern remote control and

diagnostics capabilities, and lack of comprehensive product support by the original manufacturer. We believe that the STS1-E300 will provide a cost-effective solution for solving these problems, and for extending the life of the STS-1 instruments."

“Looking longer-term,” he continued, “Metrozet has begun internal development of a triaxial STS-1 replacement sensor that will mate with these electronics. Our commercial goal is to develop a highly-manufacturable version of a complete sensor that will match the original STS-1’s noise performance, at a reasonable cost. The existence of a reliable supplier, that can manufacture, deliver and support observatory-grade sensors in a timely fashion, is clearly something that is desired by the seismologists and seismic network operators all over the world.”

The STS1-E300 is now available for purchase or evaluation. Please click here to place an order or arrange for a demonstration.

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