



INDUSTRY VETERAN STRENGTHENS TAZZ NETWORKS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steven Akers, remote access and IP services pioneer, is the latest addition to TAZZ Networks Board of Directors

PROVIDENCE, RI – January 14, 2003 – TAZZ Networks, Inc., an emerging company building a breakthrough solution in subscriber and service enablement, today announced that Steven Akers, former CTO of Lucent Technologies Wireline Business Unit and current founder and president of Auraria Corporation, has been elected to the TAZZ Networks Board of Directors. Mr. Akers joins Woody Benson, principal at Lazard Technology Partners; Frank Childs, partner at Pilot House; and Dan Lowe, president and CEO of TAZZ Networks on the TAZZ board of directors.

Akers brings 20 years of technology innovation and success to TAZZ Networks. Mr. Akers' experience and contacts within the network service provider market and his in-depth understanding of designing and deploying carrier-class products will bring tremendous value to TAZZ's board and management team. Prior to founding Auraria Corporation, Mr. Akers served as chief technology officer in the Lucent Technologies, Inc. Wireline Business Unit. Mr. Akers came to Lucent via the acquisition of Spring Tide Networks, a company that created the first IP Services platform, and which he co-founded in 1998 and served as chief technology officer. Before co-founding Spring Tide Networks, Mr. Akers served as chief technology officer at Shiva Corporation, a pioneer in remote access devices. Prior to Shiva, Mr. Akers held progressive engineering and management roles at Stratus Computer, Inc., Hewlett-Packard Company, and Apollo Computer, Inc.

"TAZZ Networks, and its mission to provide harmonized subscriber access across a number of existing routing and switching platforms, attracted me because of the huge untapped potential of the market. There is a large need in the service provider community for an IP service control layer that adds value by unifying many existing service-rich products, and the team at TAZZ Networks understands this," stated Steven Akers. "TAZZ's ability to create value from the existing service provider assets that handle IP traffic for customers is an extremely important differentiator. TAZZ can unlock the potential of service provider networks and simultaneously reduce operational expenses, and this is exactly what service providers need."

"TAZZ is extremely pleased to add Steve to our board. His domain expertise in creating carrier-grade subscriber solutions, coupled with his industry leading knowledge of IP services solutions are two strengths that we intend to fully leverage," said Dan Lowe. "Steve has a

tremendous track record of success and we look forward to his positive contributions and guidance as we continue to execute against our vision.”

About TAZZ Networks

TAZZ Networks, Inc. is an innovative provider of service and subscriber enablement solutions for network service providers. TAZZ enables service providers to consistently deliver new services in a highly controlled, user-friendly, and secure environment — all while leveraging the existing network infrastructure and reducing operational expense. For more information on TAZZ Networks, please visit www.tazznetworks.com.