

FASTWEB a finalist at the Networkers Innovation Awards 2004

Milan, 16 December 2004 – FASTWEB, Italy's main alternative broadband telecommunications operator, was one of the finalists in the Best Broadband IP Service of the Year category of the 2004 Networkers Innovation Awards, which were presented in Cannes on Wednesday 15 December 2004. The winner of this edition was the Swedish MKB.

The project that secured FASTWEB's candidacy for the prestigious award is *Distributed Pay-Per-Use (D-PPU)*, a world-exclusive platform that enables FASTWEB to adopt different Internet access charge plans according to the type of service chosen by the user. The most innovative technological characteristics of this sophisticated system are flexibility and adaptability. This means the platform can be decentralized for local distribution in the cities covered by the FASTWEB network, with significant benefits for management and control.

Once again FASTWEB, in co-operation with Cisco, has designed and implemented a service platform deploying exclusive new technology and providing full integration with its systems and network infrastructure, to support the broad range of business and residential services available in the cities it serves, on both fiber and xDSL connections.

The Networkers Innovation Awards 2004 (www.networkersawards.com) are an annual initiative presented by IDG Global Solutions and Cisco Systems. They recognize businesses at the forefront of developing innovative technologies that deliver tangible benefits.

For further information:

Simona Geroldi - Giovanna Guzzetti FASTWEB Media Relations Tel.: +39 02 4545 4350/2360 simona.geroldi@fastweb.it giovanna.guzzetti@fastweb.it