

For More Information:

Company contact:

Jim Krachenfels, GarrettCom, Inc.
510-580-2767
jkrachenfels@garrettcom.com

Press contact:

Barbara Kline, Breakthru Communications
650-868-5804
bkline@breakthrucom.com

**GARRETTCOM INTEGRATES UP TO 8 PoE PORTS IN MANAGED SWITCH;
TARGETS VIDEO SURVEILLANCE, OTHER REMOTE APPLICATIONS**



**Power over Ethernet Switch Modules Now Available
For GarrettCom 6K Family of Managed Ethernet Switches**

April 18, 2006 – Fremont, Calif. – GarrettCom™, Inc., has integrated Power over Ethernet (PoE) ports into its line of Magnum™ 6K Series Managed Ethernet™ Switches to provide a clean and cost-effective solution to supporting PoE appliances such as video surveillance cameras in power utility substations and other industrial applications where security or remote access to an industrial network is required. GarrettCom’s expanded Power over Ethernet offerings now include a series of PoE Port Modules, incorporating 4 to 8 PoE ports, that can be factory-configured in any 6K switch. GarrettCom, which pioneered the mixed-media modular Ethernet products in 1993, is the first company to offer the convenience of PoE ports integrated into industrial-grade switches, both managed and unmanaged.



“PoE is approaching critical mass in industrial usage,” said Frank Madren, GarrettCom President. “Since we introduced our hardened four-port Magnum™ PS14P PoE Power Source Convenient Switch in June of last year, we have seen a number of PoE products – both Power Sourcing Equipment (PSE) and Powered Devices (PD) enter the industrial market. GarrettCom is going one step further by providing a flexible managed switch that allows PoE ports to coexist with regular fiber and copper ports. With growing numbers of power substations standardizing on the Ethernet protocol, PoE is an obvious choice for remote applications – particularly security and VOIP.”

“We have been looking for this kind of capability,” said Peter Christie, Managing Director, Spanish Computer Services/Installations, S.L., a leading power utilities

integrator in Spain and Portugal. “PoE provides an effective way of deploying and managing VOIP and remote security cameras in substations, but we didn’t like having to have a separate Ethernet box to do it. Integrating PoE into 6K switches has provided a streamlined and cost-effective way to handle the situation.”

GarrettCom is the only supplier offering a line of heavy-duty PoE Power-Sourcing switches, ranging from small 4-port switches to rugged 32-port managed switches with Gb backbones. The new PoE port modules for 6K switches come in 35 different port configurations to address a wide variety of application needs. Modules are factory-configured, and the company is offering upgrades for existing 6K switches. The Magnum 6K Series of managed Ethernet switches includes up to 32 ports of configurable Ethernet connectivity ranging from 10 Mb copper to 1 Gb fiber backbones in a single switch, as well as sophisticated managed networks software featuring security, redundancy, performance and ease-of-use.

PoE combines data and power on the same copper cabling, greatly simplifying and reducing installation costs. Industrial control systems are using PoE to get Ethernet benefits such as interoperability across multiple vendors, high bandwidth, topological flexibility, and optional redundancy, in conjunction with the single-media data and power transmission formerly offered only by fieldbuses. The growing list of PoE devices available for industrial systems now includes video cameras, rugged VOIP phones, wireless access units, annunciators, data loggers, and sensors.

While the industrial market has lagged behind commercial offices in the adoption of PoE technology, GarrettCom believes that the clear benefits of PoE in extending connectivity to outlying appliances will encourage increasingly rapid adoption as additional PDs become available. Ethernet is the only affordable protocol available that can support the bandwidth requirements of security systems such as video cameras and print and iris readers. According to Madren, with the availability of PoE, the last fieldbus technical advantage has been removed, allowing Ethernet to appear anywhere in an industrial application where serial modems and fieldbuses are currently deployed.

Two Designs: Power Pass-Through and Power Inside

PoE modules are available in two formats: Pass-Through and Power Inside. The 48VDC Power Pass-Through modules, with up to 8 PoE ports, can be configured in 6K-Series switches with 48VDC power. Magnum 6K-Series switches with AC or 125VDC power require a Power Inside power supply that can support up to 4 PoE ports.

Each PoE-enabled RJ-45 port can drive 802.3af-compliant PDs as well as deliver 10/100 Mb data transmission over the same twisted-pair cable. The PoE modules have an auto-sensing algorithm that cuts off power when 802.3af-compliant devices are not attached. Proprietary PoE and non-PoE equipment are not recognized, which protects them from possible electrical damage. GarrettCom's Magnum PoE Port Modules support the Power-over-Ethernet PSE standard for over-current protection, under-current detection, and fault protection.

Pricing and Delivery

GarrettCom products are marketed through a network of resellers, system integrators, and international distributors. Pricing for factory-installed 6K-Series PoE modules starts at \$700. Switches with integrated PoE Port Modules are available for delivery two weeks ARO. More information about the modules can be found at:

http://www.garrettcom.com/6k_modules_poe.htm

About GarrettCom

GarrettCom, Inc., Fremont, Calif., is recognized for its innovation in the design of Ethernet products for industrial, power utility, intelligent transportation systems and telecommunications markets. For more information on GarrettCom and its Magnum line of Ethernet products, visit www.garrettcom.com or www.garrettcom.co.uk, or contact the company at 47823 Westinghouse Drive, Fremont, CA 94539, voice 510-438-9071, fax 510-438-9072, email mktg@garrettcom.com.

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Editor's Note: Photo available at <http://ftp.garrettcom.com/webfiles>; click on Marketing, then click on Magnum_Product_Photos, then click on "6k_poe_module.tif" or request an electronic copy from bkline@breakthru.com or by calling 650-868-5804.