Press Release

Netomnia scales 800G-ready ROADM network across UK with Smartoptics

Oslo, Norway – May 21, 2025 – Smartoptics, a leading provider of optical networking solutions, today announced that Netomnia, one of the UK's largest alternative full-fibre network operators, has deployed a Smartoptics ROADM-based core network across the UK. The solution delivers scalable IP over DWDM at 100G and 400G wavelengths and is 800G-ready by design.

Netomnia, the UK's second-largest alternative network provider (AltNet), builds and operates the full-fibre infrastructure used for its wholesale services and its retail broadband providers, YouFibre and brsk. Together, they deliver high-speed internet to homes and businesses across the UK via Netomnia's network. The combined footprint now covers 2.4 million serviceable premises, with 310,000 premises already connected. With ambitious expansion plans, Netomnia aims to reach 5 million serviceable premises by the end of 2027, reinforcing its position as a leader in the UK's full-fibre revolution.

To accommodate rapid subscriber growth from YouFibre and brsk, Netomnia has taken the strategic step of expanding capacity and unifying its regional networks into a national core. The company is connecting existing hubs around London, Manchester and Wales into a ring network using its own dark fibre. By deploying Smartoptics' flexible 34-degree ROADMs, managed with the SoSmart software suite, variable gain amplifiers and coherent optics, the 800G-ready network supports any-to-any high-speed services.

"Investing in our own dark fibre and equipment was the clear long-term choice, with projected savings of millions compared to leased lit capacity over five to seven years. Smartoptics stood out with no licensing fees for alien wavelengths, a compact footprint, and 800G-ready ROADMs that are easy to manage with the SoSmart controller. The solution outperformed more complex and restrictive alternatives. Deploying a national network could have been complex and challenging, but thanks to Smartoptics' intuitive platform and strong support, the rollout felt easy from the start," says Sam Defriez, Director of Networks, Netomnia.

Netomnia's new national ROADM network enables near-unlimited capacity while reducing dependence on external providers. It is designed to carry 100G and 400G IP over DWDM wavelengths and delivers a more scalable, flexible and cost-efficient transport layer for continued growth.

"The shift toward more flexible networking – including support for open standards and coherent optics – is reshaping how ISPs and fibre operators scale to meet subscriber growth. Netomnia's decision to invest in its own national core with a best-of-breed, multi-vendor approach reflects a forward-looking mindset that moves beyond traditional capacity models. We're proud to support that shift – not only with advanced technology, but also with a philosophy rooted in openness, ease of use and long-term collaboration," says Magnus Grenfeldt, CEO, Smartoptics.

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About Smartoptics

Smartoptics provides innovative optical networking solutions and devices for the new era of open networking. Our customer base includes thousands of enterprises, governments, cloud providers, Internet exchanges as well as cable and telecom operators. We have an open networking approach in everything we do which allows our customers to break unwanted vendor lock-in, remain flexible and minimize costs. Our solutions are used in metro and regional network applications that increasingly rely on data center services and specifications. Smartoptics is a Scandinavian company founded in 2006. We partner with leading technology and network solution providers such as Brocade, Cisco and Dell and have a global reach through more than 100 business partners.

For additional information about Smartoptics, please visit https://www.smartoptics.com/

About Netomnia

Netomnia is a wholesale fibre operator, the UK's fourth-largest full-fibre network.

With an ambitious rollout plan to reach 5 million premises by 2027, backed by over £1.4 billion in funding, we are building an uncompromising, capital-efficient fibre network that delivers tomorrow's innovations today.

The Netomnia network is where the most powerful internet lives, redefining what's possible for businesses and communities across the UK.

For more information visit: www.netomnia.com