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2006 BACnet® International Holds Largest Ever BACnet Testing Labs (BTL) Interoperability Workshop

ATLANTA – (October 23, 2006) - **BACnet® International** held its 7th annual BACnet® Testing Labs (BTL) Interoperability Workshop in Vancouver B.C. on October 3-5, 2006. Also known as Plugfest, this year's event boasted the highest attendance in its history with 104 engineers from 28 companies and 5 countries in attendance.

Co-sponsored this year by Delta Controls and Reliable Controls, this workshop is an informal environment in which engineers bring their BACnet® implementations for informal testing with other BACnet implementations. This fosters communications within the BACnet community and promotes interoperability of BACnet devices.

According to Carl Neilson, Delta Controls and BTL Working Group Co-Chair, "BACnet® International's BTL Interoperability Workshop provides attendees with the opportunity to test against real BACnet implementations in a controlled environment. Nowhere else do manufacturers get such a wide range of interoperability test experiences. The whole BACnet community benefits by the improvements made to products based on results obtained during these workshops."

During the workshop, attendees were divided into 36 different teams forming 18 work groups per session. Each team participated in 10 work sessions. The work sessions allowed the different teams to meet, inter-connect their hardware and to communicate using BACnet services between the devices.

When asked about why he consistently attends Plugfest, attendee Steve Karg with Lithonia Lighting stated, "The Plugfest is a great place to find out what other vendors are expecting to see in your BACnet implementation. Questions from other attendees give us information and the supporting arguments to take back to our marketing department. The Plugfest is also a great place to bring a freshly written BACnet stack to see if it stands up to the scrutiny from established BACnet stacks in the other vendors products."

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About BACnet International

BACnet® International is an organization that encourages the successful use of BACnet® in building automation and control systems through interoperability testing educational programs, and promotional activities. BACnet® International complements the work of other BACnet®-related groups whose charters limit their commercial activities.

BACnet® International members include companies involved in the design, manufacturing installation, commissioning, and maintenance of control equipment that uses BACnet® for communication, as well as other interested persons. For more information, please visit www.bacnetinternational.org.