



Alcatel is 'Best Buy' in 2006 Telephone System Awards

Paris, February 7, 2006 — Alcatel (Paris: CGEP.PA and NSYE: ALA) today announced that it has won two awards for the Best Buy categories in the January 2006 *What to Buy for Business Telephone System Awards*. Awarded by the UK's *What to Buy for Business* magazine, Alcatel was recognised for its OmniPCX Office and OmniPCX Enterprise IP communications platforms. This recognition confirms Alcatel's leadership position in enterprise telephony and builds on its success in delivering one of the most awarded IP telephony solutions in the world.

Benchmarked against major competitors, the Alcatel OmniPCX Office was named the Best Buy for small and medium sized businesses, while the Alcatel OmniPCX Enterprise scooped the award for medium-to-large enterprises. These flexible and scaleable communications systems are compatible with both IP and traditional telephony environments, providing companies with a smooth migration path over to IP. Both the Alcatel OmniPCX Office and the Alcatel OmniPCX Enterprise have been proven to generate fast Returns on Investment (RoI), as well as significant productivity benefits by providing employees with advanced IP telephony services and a broad range of communications applications, including unified messaging, conferencing and collaboration, and contact center.

"Alcatel's telephony solutions were clear winners of the Best Buy categories," said Sara White, editor of *What to Buy for Business*. "By combining the best of traditional telephony with an IP platform, these future-proof products represent real value for money and will be an asset to any organisation."

"We're delighted to receive these awards, which indicate that our IP communications solutions continue to benefit end-users," said Graeme Allan, vice president, Northern Europe enterprise solutions activities, Alcatel. "With many organisations still considering whether or not to move towards converged networks, these solutions offer straightforward integration at an affordable price."

About Alcatel

Alcatel provides communications solutions to telecommunication carriers, Internet service providers and enterprises for delivery of voice, data and video applications to their customers or employees. Alcatel brings its leading position in fixed and mobile broadband networks, applications and services, to help its partners and customers build a user-centric broadband world. With sales of EURO 13.1 billion and 58,000 employees in 2005, Alcatel operates in more than 130 countries.