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Press Release

Smartoptics completes picture of northern Sweden connectivity with AC-Net contract

Oslo, Norway – November 18, 2026 – Smartoptics, a leading provider of optical networking solutions, today announced a key addition to its strong coverage of Norrland, northern Sweden, with AC-Net selecting Smartoptics for a new WDM-based optical transport network. The regional network operator based in Umeå, Sweden, joins IT Norrbotten, Norrsken and other regional operators choosing Smartoptics to strengthen open optical connectivity across the northern region of Sweden. The solution gives AC-Net increased capacity and operational reliability, supporting the region's needs well into the future.

One common challenge in the far north of Sweden is covering a large and sparsely populated region with reliable connectivity that reaches beyond urban centers. This is important for supporting the critical services communities depend on. AC-Net is the latest example of addressing this challenge with a new DWDM-based optical network across Västerbotten using Smartoptics 800G-ready DCP-R ROADMs.

AC-Net has developed and managed the regional broadband network of Västerbotten county since 1997. The publicly-owned company connects municipalities, businesses and public-sector organizations across the county through shared digital infrastructure. The contract structure enables other Swedish city networks to procure the same solution and terms and accelerate the modernization of their optical networks.

"Through this investment, we are ensuring modern and robust infrastructure for our region to meet the future needs of digital communication. A strong network is essential for regional development, innovation and public services. With higher capacity and increased resilience, we strengthen connectivity for businesses, the public sector and residents across the entire region," says David Lindström, CEO, AC-Net.

The ROADM network will be managed using the SoSmart software suite, which simplifies open network management, especially over long distances such as in Norrland. With pre-provisioning, it defines and reserves a complete service path before installation and activation, which are then completed in a single site visit, reducing the number of trips to remote sites.

"Smartoptics is now a strategic partner for enabling broadband coverage across Norrland, with AC-Net joining IT Norrbotten, Norrsken and a growing number of regional network operators. Each new network helps complete the region's digital foundation, filling gaps, reaching further and accelerating the pace for other network operators across the great north. We are proud to partner with AC-Net to contribute Nordic expertise to future-proof infrastructure supporting critical services and robust communities in our Nordic home market," 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://smartoptics.com/

About AC-Net

AC-Net develops and manages regional digital infrastructure with the goal of creating conditions for growth, innovation and accessible digital services for residents, businesses and the public sector.

For additional information about AC-Net, please visit https://ac-net.se/