



Internet Initiative Japan

For Immediate Release

IIJ Awarded “The Best Service Provider of Year 2001” title in Nikkei Survey

- *Ranked #1 in all qualifying categories of Dedicated Access, Dialup Access and Value-added Services* -

TOKYO, December 4, 2001 – Internet Initiative Japan Inc. (“IIJ”, NASDAQ: IIJ), Japan’s leading Internet access and comprehensive solutions provider, today announced that the Company was awarded “the best service provider of year 2001” title in a major annual survey conducted by Nikkei Communications, a leading telecom industry trade magazine. According to the survey, which encompassed responses from 926 corporations in Japan and was released on December 3rd 2001, IIJ was ranked number one in all qualifying categories of dedicated access, dialup access and value-added services.

“I’m very pleased with this award, which clearly demonstrates our users appreciation of IIJ’s high service quality and performance,” said Koichi Suzuki, the President and CEO of IIJ. “Based on our corporate philosophy of consistently ensuring high quality services that earn the trust of customers, we will continue to pursue our advanced expertise in IP technology and to strengthen our position in the marketplace as a provider of comprehensive network solutions.”

The Nikkei Communications survey consisted of questions on customer satisfaction in each qualifying category for 11 items including price, network stability, throughput, customer support, security, backbone capacity, operation, the number of access points, server management, value-added services and consulting capabilities. Following IIJ as the best service provider of year 2001, the survey respondents ranked Hitachi second and NTT PC Communications third.

About IIJ

Internet Initiative Japan Inc. (IIJ, NASDAQ: IIJ) is Japan’s leading Internet-access and comprehensive Internet solution provider mainly targeting high-end corporate customers. Founded in 1992 as a pioneer of commercial Internet services in Japan, IIJ has built one of the largest Internet backbone networks in Japan as well as between Japan and the United States. IIJ and its group companies provide total solutions including new generation network services over optical-fiber infrastructure optimized for data communications, construction of Asian-wide IP backbone networks, high-quality Internet access, securities, hosting/housing, and content design and systems integration.

The statements within this release contain forward-looking statements about our future plans that involve risk and uncertainties. These statements may differ materially from actual future events or results. Readers are referred to the documents filed by Internet Initiative Japan Inc. with the SEC, specifically the most recent reports on Forms 20-F and 6-K, which identify important risk factors that could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements.

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