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 Time: Wed, 13 Jul 2005 12:42:15 +0400
 Subject: Re: [Fwd: The Internet in United Arab Emirates]]

**>1) Could you please provide a brief technical description of the United Arab Emirates
 >external connectivity to the Internet – including upstream provider(s), international
 >bandwidth of the link(s), etc. ?**

Internet in UAE was started in 1995 with basic Internet access services. However the growth of internet within UAE today has surpassed all initial expectations whereby we now have in access of 380,000 narrowband subscribers while broadband penetration have exceeded 80K. In addition, Etisalat has an extensive Internet access and related services offered through it's state of the art and redundant dual Data Centres based in Dubai and Abu Dhabi. The rest of the access services are offered through the POP sites scattered across UAE.

Through the EMIX (Emirates Internet Exchange) infrastructure, Etisalat also has external connectivity in an extensive manner whereby our total available bandwidth today exceeds 3Gbps capacity with a list of large ISPs taking services as well as peering through EMIX network. Number of International capacity providers are used to provide redundancies for it's network whereby cables from SE-ME-WE3 and FLAG Telecoms infrastructure is used and in future SE-ME-WE4 will provide ample capacity to cater to future expansion with Multiples of STM4s. EMIX also has a POP site in New York, USA to allow effective traffic management and peering with other major providers. In addition there are plans to expand the POP sites to other major centres of Internet traffic over the coming months.

>2)Please include the URLs for the ISPs in the country.

URL for eCompany (UAE's only ISP): www.ecompany.ae
 Please note that there is another ISP that only provides Internet in specific areas in Dubai and its called Sahn Technologies and is owned by Dubai Internet City. Their URL is www.sahm.ae

**>3) Please list the Universities/Research Institutions with external/international
 >connectivity currently operating in the country:**

Universities/Research Institutions	Link Type	Bandwidth	Upstream ISP	POP Location
UAE Al Ain University	Internet over ATM	34 MB	Etisalat	East POP
Higher Colleges of Technology	Internet over ATM	34 MB	Etisalat	East POP
American University of Sharjah	Internet over ATM	8 MB	Etisalat	Deira POP
Ajman University	Internet over ATM	4 MB	Etisalat	Deira POP
Environmental Research & Wildlife	Internet over ATM	2 MB	Etisalat	East POP
Emirates Center for Strategic Studies	Internet over ATM	2 MB	Etisalat	East POP
Dubai University Collage	Leased Line	512 Kb	Etisalat	Deira POP

Al Ghurair University	Leased Line	128 Kb	Etisalat	Shandagha POP
Zayed University Dubai	Leased Line	128 Kb	Etisalat	Shandagha POP
Dubai University College	Leased Line	256 Kb	Etisalat	Shandagha POP
Zayed University (lots of other links)	Leased Line		Etisalat	Central POP
AbuDhabi University	Leased Line		Etisalat	East POP
University of Sharjah	Leased Line		Etisalat	Abu Shaghara POP
University of Sharjah	Leased Line		Etisalat	Al Nahda POP

>4)What do you see as the prospects for Internet growth in United Arab Emirates; what >would help it, and what are currently the major obstacles?

The UAE is facing a rapid growth in Internet usage among all segments of the country whether residential or business. Currently, we are targeting increasing broadband penetration in the country. This is aided by the availability of the advanced infrastructure provided by Etisalat. Also, there are different eGovernment initiatives in all emirates in the country. In addition to that, many regional and international business companies are operating from the UAE. This presence implies that the need of Internet is continuously growing.