

“DSL Forum: DSL Alive and Well” (June 2002)

Paula Bernier, *XCHANGE Magazine*

DSL is alive and well and, in fact, has more subscribers worldwide than does cable modem service, Bill Rodey reminded industry watchers this week at SUPERCOMM.

Worldwide DSL subscribers increased 200 percent worldwide between December 2000 and March 2002, according to a Frost & Sullivan report quoted by Rodey, who is chairman and president of the DSL Forum. As of this March, there were an estimated 23.3 million DSL subscribers worldwide, vs. just 7.6 million DSL subs back at the end of 2000. Frost & Sullivan reports that in March 2002 cable modem was 15.8 million, trailing DSL worldwide. The growth of DSL since 2000 has been fueled primarily by Korea and Japan's DSL takeup and Deutsche Telekom's move from ISDN to DSL, according to the study. North American DSL growth, meanwhile, was lower than expected in 2001 and in the first quarter of this year. The Forum's goal is to see 200 million DSL subscribers worldwide by 2005.