



NEWS RELEASE

Ciena Launches Ciena Ventures to Expand Innovation Across the AI Networking Ecosystem

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- Corporate venture capital fund supports early-stage investments in emerging technologies that address AI-driven transformation of networks
- Amplifies Ciena's long-term strategy to invest in innovations that complement organic R&D and strategic acquisitions

FULTON, Md.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Ciena Corporation (NYSE: CIEN) today announced the launch of Ciena Ventures, a new corporate venture capital (CVC) program designed to complement the company's organic innovation investments and strategic acquisitions. With an initial commitment of \$200 million, Ciena Ventures will invest in early-stage companies and technology-focused venture funds that align with Ciena's strategic focus areas and help advance the future of networking and connectivity in the AI era.

"As technologies such as AI reshape the networking landscape, Ciena Ventures provides another vehicle for executing on our long-term strategy and capital allocation priorities," said David Rothenstein, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer, Ciena. "Investing in companies and funds through Ciena Ventures will enable the accelerated development of transformative solutions, strengthen the broader innovation ecosystem, expand our visibility into emerging technologies, and help Ciena to evolve its portfolio, develop new solutions, and pursue opportunities in adjacent markets."

Led by Loai Louis, Vice President of Corporate Development, Ciena Ventures represents Ciena's first company-wide CVC initiative and will focus on technologies that:

- Advance networking infrastructure and operations
- Accelerate next-generation data center architectures
- Enable innovations in optical networking technologies and interconnects
- Expand opportunities in adjacent areas such as computing, materials and emerging communications technologies

Through Ciena Ventures, Ciena looks forward to connecting with innovators working on technologies that will shape the future of AI-driven networking and connectivity. Organizations interested in discussing potential opportunities may contact **CienaVentures@ciena.com**.

About Ciena

Ciena is the global leader in high-speed connectivity. We build the world's most advanced networks to support exponential growth in bandwidth demand. By harnessing the power of our networking systems, interconnects, automation software, and services, Ciena revolutionizes data transmission and network management. With unparalleled expertise and innovation, we empower our customers, partners, and communities to thrive in the AI era. For updates on Ciena, follow us on **LinkedIn** or visit the **Ciena website**.

Note to Ciena Investors

You are encouraged to review the **Investors section** of our website, where we routinely post press releases, SEC filings, recent news, financial results, and other announcements. From time to time we exclusively post material information to this website along with other disclosure channels that we use. This press release contains certain forward-looking statements that are based on our current expectations, forecasts, information and assumptions. These statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties. Actual results or outcomes may differ materially from those stated or implied, because of risks and uncertainties, including those detailed in our most recent annual and quarterly reports filed with the SEC. Forward-looking statements include statements regarding our expectations, beliefs, intentions or strategies and can be identified by words such as "anticipate," "believe," "could," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "should," "will," and "would" or similar words. Ciena assumes no obligation to update the information included in this press release, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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