



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Public Relations:

e-mail: goldentelecom@rose.ru

tel.: +7-095-956-7885; fax: +7-095-956-7882

Investor Relations:

e-mail: investorrelations@gti.ru

tel.: +7-501-797-9309; fax: +7-501-797-9332

www.goldentelecom.ru

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Golden Telecom Reports Positive Third Quarter Results

Highlights

- Consolidated revenues of \$29.4 million up 17 percent from the same quarter last year, and up 9 percent from last quarter.
- Consolidated EBITDA¹ of \$4.1 million up 32 percent from the same quarter last year.
- Consolidated data and Internet services revenues of \$10.4 million up 53 percent from the same quarter in the prior year and up 8 percent from the last quarter.
- Dial-up Internet subscribers of 63,916 up more than 240 percent from the first of the year.

MOSCOW, Russia (November 8, 2000) -- Golden Telecom ("GTI") (Nasdaq: GLDN), a leading integrated provider of telecommunications and Internet services across Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), today reported its results for the third quarter 2000.

"We finished an exciting quarter with very positive operating results," reported Stewart Reich, Golden Telecom president and CEO. "Revenue growth showed strength quarter-over-quarter and as compared to the same quarter last year. Our consolidated data and Internet revenues grew by more than 53% compared to the same quarter last year and we now host more than 700 customer sites. Also as compared to the same quarter last year, our Internet subscriber base grew over 350% and hours spent on line grew by more than four times. What's more, we significantly advanced toward our goal of becoming the largest alternative telecommunications and Internet provider in the CIS by announcing three new acquisitions in the Internet and mobile sectors, expanding our Ukraine GSM operations to Odessa, and by commencing construction of a world class Internet Data Center."

Golden Telecom reported the first of several acquisitions this quarter beginning on July 14, when it announced the purchase of IT INFOART STARS, a highly successful horizontal portal. On July 30, the company announced it would buy the Agama family of Russian Web properties, including top-rated Russian search engine Aport and leading online directory service @Rus, from Digital Holdings Corp.

On October 2, Golden Telecom announced its plans to strengthen its mobile communications strategy in Russia by agreeing to acquire 18 percent of MCT Corp. ("MCT") in exchange for GTI's Russian mobile operations. After this transaction closes, MCT's properties will cover a population base of more than 100 million people, including the four largest cities in Russia, as well as Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. This coverage positions MCT to become a leading national mobile operator in Russia. As part of this transaction GTI acquired for cash, \$9 million of MCT debt convertible into equity securities. In addition, Golden Telecom will transfer

its Moscow based staff that oversees their Russian mobile operations to MCT, which will allow the company to reduce its corporate overhead by more than \$2.0 million.

Golden Telecom will continue to operate the Golden Telecom Ukraine GSM networks in Kiev and Odessa, which had 32,663 subscribers at the end of the third quarter 2000. Golden Telecom Ukraine accounts for nearly all the consolidated Mobile Services revenue currently reported by the company.

Golden Telecom plans to complete its 5,000 square foot Internet Data Center later this quarter. The center will target Internet companies, ISP's, carriers and business who need hosting and co-location services.

Third quarter 2000 Results

Consolidated revenues were \$29.4 million, up 9 percent compared to last quarter, and up 17 percent compared to the same quarter last year.

- Data and Internet business line revenues were \$10.4 million, up 8 percent compared to last quarter, and up 53 percent compared to the third quarter of 1999.
- Internet subscribers increased to 63,916, up more than 240 percent from 18,599 subscribers at the end of 1999.
- CLEC revenues were \$10.7 million up 8 percent compared to last quarter, but down 8 percent compared to the third quarter of 1999. The increase from last quarter primarily reflects higher traffic volumes. The decrease compared to the same quarter last year reflects lower tariffs that were not fully offset by higher traffic volumes.
- Mobile Services revenues were \$4.6 million, up 5 percent compared to last quarter, but level with the third quarter of 1999. The increase compared to last quarter primarily reflects a 7 percent increase in subscribers at our Golden Telecom Ukraine GSM operations. Compared to the same quarter last year, a decrease in the average revenue per subscriber was offset by the increase in the number of subscribers.

Consolidated EBITDA¹ was \$4.1 million, up 32 percent from \$3.1 million in the third quarter of 1999, but down slightly from \$4.3 million compared to last quarter. An increase in the EBITDA from Golden Telecom's core operations was offset by start up costs associated with the new GSM operations in Odessa, and increased spending associated with Golden Telecom's new Internet initiatives. All together, these new initiatives cost the company more than \$1.0 million in EBITDA during the quarter.

The net loss for the period was (\$2.9) million, compared to a net loss of (\$26.4) million reported in the third quarter of 1999. The improved net loss primarily reflects the abandonment charge of (\$19.8) million recorded in the third quarter of 1999.

The net loss per common share was (\$0.12) compared to a net loss of (\$2.44) for the third quarter of 1999. The weighted-average number of shares outstanding increased to 24.1 million compared to 10.8 million in the third quarter of 1999.

Golden Telecom ended the quarter with \$132.1 million in cash and cash equivalents, of which approximately \$21 million is committed to acquisitions the company expects to close before the end of the year.

Outlook

The following statements are forward looking and are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

Consolidated revenues and EBITDA for the fourth quarter of 2000 should be about the same or slightly ahead compared to the third quarter of 2000. The net loss for the fourth quarter is expected to be slightly higher than the loss reported for the third quarter of 2000.

Consolidated revenues for 2001 are expected to increase by approximately 15 to 20 percent. Consolidated EBITDA is expected to increase approximately 20 to 25 percent. The growth in EBITDA reflects higher growth from the companies existing core businesses that is being partially offset by the companies emerging Consumer Internet services and the start-up cost associated with the new GSM operations in Odessa. Revenue and EBITDA for the first quarter of 2001 is expected to be down slightly from the fourth quarter as is traditionally the case due to normal seasonal factors. The net loss for the year 2001 is expected to nearly double primarily due to higher intangible amortization expense related to the Consumer Internet acquisitions of IT INFOART STARS and Agama. Golden Telecom will amortize the related intangibles over a five-year period. The forecast does reflect the MCT acquisition but it does not reflect Nursat or any other potential acquisitions, or divestitures, the company may choose to undertake.

About Golden Telecom

Golden Telecom, Inc., NASDAQ "GLDN" is a leading facilities-based provider of integrated telecommunications and Internet services in major population centers throughout Russia and other countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The company offers competitive local exchange carrier services using its overlay network in Moscow, Kiev and Saint Petersburg; data and long-distance services using a fiber optic and satellite-based network, including more than 120 combined access points in Russia and other countries of the CIS; dedicated and dial-up Internet access to businesses and consumers; and popular Internet content through several web brands, including its Russia-On-Line portal. Golden Telecom also provides mobile services using cellular networks in Kiev, and Vladivostok and other population centers throughout Russia. Golden Telecom closed a Public Offering of its shares on September 30, 1999. Gobal TeleSystems Group, Inc. holds approximately 63 percent of Golden Telecom's outstanding shares.

Statements made in this press release, including statements concerning our outlook for revenue, EBITDA and net losses for the fourth quarter of 2000, for the first quarter 2001, and the year 2001, are forward looking and are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. It is important to note that such statements involve risks and uncertainties, which may cause results to differ materially from those set forth in these statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the political and economic developments in the markets where we operate, especially Russia, the Company's limited operating history, and increasing competition that may limit growth opportunities, especially in the Internet and data transmission services. Such risks and uncertainties also include, but are not limited to, our ability to consummate the Agama transaction, the ability of MCT Corp. to develop further its cellular network, to build its management team and to implement its business strategy and our ability to expand the IT INFOART STARS' portal, to increase our GSM operations in Odessa and to successfully construct and operate the Internet Data Center. Additional information concerning factors that could cause results to differ materially from those in the forward looking statements are contained in the Company's filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, including, but not limited to, the Company's prospectus dated June 30, 2000 included in the Registration Statement No. 333-39260 on Form S-1, the Company's report on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2000 and June 30, 2000, and the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1999. Additional information may also be contained in the filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission submitted by Global TeleSystems, Inc., ("GTS") the majority shareholder in the Company.

Golden Telecom, Inc.
Condensed, Consolidated Statement of Operations (unaudited)
(amounts in millions, except per share data)

| | Three Months Ended: | | Nine Months Ended: | |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| | <u>9/30/99</u> | <u>9/30/00</u> | <u>9/30/99</u> | <u>9/30/00</u> |
| Revenues | \$ 25.1 | \$ 29.4 | \$ 72.5 | \$ 80.6 |
| Operating costs and expenses: | | | | |
| Access and network services | 11.1 | 13.3 | 29.9 | 35.4 |
| Selling, general and administrative | 10.9 | 12.0 | 30.0 | 33.0 |
| EBITDA ¹ | 3.1 | 4.1 | 12.6 | 12.2 |
| Abandonment and restructuring charge | 19.8 | — | 19.8 | — |
| Depreciation and amortization | 7.5 | 8.2 | 21.5 | 23.1 |
| Loss from operations | (24.2) | (4.1) | (28.7) | (10.9) |
| Other income/(expense): | | | | |
| Equity in earnings/(losses) of ventures | 0.2 | 0.1 | (4.9) | (1.0) |
| Foreign currency gains/(losses) | (0.7) | 0.4 | (1.5) | — |
| Interest income/(expense), net | 0.3 | 1.4 | — | 4.9 |
| Other expense | — | — | — | (0.1) |
| Minority interest | (0.3) | (0.2) | (1.3) | (0.4) |
| Total other income/(expense) | (0.5) | 1.7 | (7.7) | 3.4 |
| Net income before income taxes | (24.7) | (2.4) | (36.4) | (7.5) |
| Income taxes | 1.7 | 0.5 | 6.0 | 0.6 |
| Net loss | <u>\$ (26.4)</u> | <u>\$ (2.9)</u> | <u>\$ (42.4)</u> | <u>\$ (8.1)</u> |
| Net loss per share | <u>(\$2.44)</u> | <u>(\$0.12)</u> | <u>(\$3.97)</u> | <u>(\$0.34)</u> |
| Weighted average common shares | <u>10.8</u> | <u>24.1</u> | <u>10.7</u> | <u>24.1</u> |

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Golden Telecom, Inc.
Condensed, Consolidated Balance Sheet (unaudited)
(amounts in millions)

| | <u>12/31/99</u> | <u>9/30/00</u> |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 162.7 | \$ 132.1 |
| Accounts receivable, net | 11.0 | 16.4 |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | 7.9 | 12.0 |
| Total current assets | 181.6 | 160.5 |
| Property and equipment, net | 62.2 | 80.1 |
| Goodwill and intangible assets, net | 53.5 | 46.9 |
| Restricted cash and other assets | 69.3 | 78.6 |
| Total | 187.0 | 166.1 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$ 366.6 | \$ 366.1 |
| LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Current liabilities | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | \$ 35.0 | \$ 37.3 |
| Debt maturing within one year | 4.1 | 3.0 |
| Other current liabilities | 10.0 | 11.6 |
| Total current liabilities | 49.1 | 51.9 |
| Long-term debt | 23.9 | 26.8 |
| Other liabilities | 2.3 | 2.9 |
| Total | 75.3 | 81.6 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 75.3 | 81.6 |
| Minority interest | 2.8 | 3.3 |
| SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Common stock | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 407.9 | 408.7 |
| Accumulated deficit | (119.6) | (127.7) |
| Total | 288.5 | 281.2 |
| TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY | 288.5 | 281.2 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY | \$ 366.6 | \$ 366.1 |

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Golden Telecom, Inc.
Line-of-Business Statistics (unaudited)
(amounts in millions)

| | Consolidated | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Three Months Ended: | | |
| | <u>9/30/99</u> | <u>6/30/00</u> | <u>9/30/00</u> |
| Revenues | | | |
| CLEC | \$ 11.6 | \$ 9.9 | \$ 10.7 |
| Data and Internet | 6.8 | 9.6 | 10.4 |
| Long distance | 3.1 | 3.5 | 4.1 |
| Mobile services | 4.6 | 4.4 | 4.6 |
| Eliminations | (1.0) | (0.5) | (0.4) |
| Total revenues | <u>\$ 25.1</u> | <u>\$ 26.9</u> | <u>\$ 29.4</u> |
| EBITDA¹ | | | |
| CLEC | \$ 7.1 | \$ 4.7 | \$ 5.2 |
| Data and Internet | (0.4) | 0.7 | 1.0 |
| Long distance | (0.9) | (0.3) | (0.4) |
| Mobile services | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.3 |
| Corporate | (4.1) | (2.4) | (3.0) |
| Total EBITDA | <u>\$ 3.1</u> | <u>\$ 4.3</u> | <u>\$ 4.1</u> |
| | Proportional | | |
| | Three Months Ended: | | |
| | <u>9/30/99</u> | <u>6/30/00</u> | <u>9/30/00</u> |
| Revenues² | | | |
| CLEC | \$ 19.1 | \$ 17.0 | \$ 16.3 |
| Data and Internet | 6.2 | 8.9 | 10.0 |
| Long distance | 2.4 | 3.5 | 4.3 |
| Mobile services | 5.1 | 5.3 | 5.6 |
| Total revenues | <u>\$ 32.8</u> | <u>\$ 34.7</u> | <u>\$ 36.2</u> |
| EBITDA³ | | | |
| CLEC | \$ 10.1 | \$ 7.7 | \$ 8.3 |
| Data and Internet | (0.4) | 0.7 | 0.9 |
| Long distance | (0.8) | 0.0 | (0.2) |
| Mobile services | 1.9 | 1.6 | 1.8 |
| Corporate | (4.1) | (2.4) | (3.0) |
| Total EBITDA | <u>\$ 6.7</u> | <u>\$ 7.6</u> | <u>\$ 7.8</u> |

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The following table presents selected operating data⁴ related to our consolidated and unconsolidated ventures at and for the periods shown:

| | Three Months Ended: | | |
|--|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <u>9/30/99</u> | <u>6/30/00</u> | <u>9/30/00</u> |
| Points of presence | 104 | 118 | 126 |
| Total voice minutes (millions) | | | |
| Local | 89.6 | 89.4 | 88.4 |
| Domestic long distance | 23.2 | 35.0 | 35.1 |
| International outgoing | 12.9 | 20.5 | 23.4 |
| Incoming | 26.3 | 41.2 | 51.2 |
| Dial-up Internet access subscribers ⁵ | 14,167 | 46,781 | 63,916 |
| Total active cellular subscribers | 34,307 | 54,977 | 59,196 |
| Total employees – consolidated entities | 577 | 785 | 825 |
| Total employees – non-consolidated entities | 715 | 741 | 776 |

EDN Sovintel, LLC
Condensed Statement of Operations (unaudited)
(amounts in millions)

| | Three Months Ended: | | Nine Months Ended: | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | 9/30/99 | 9/30/00 | 9/30/99 | 9/30/00 |
| Revenues | \$ 23.5 | \$ 22.9 | \$ 68.5 | \$ 68.2 |
| Operating costs and expenses: | | | | |
| Access and network services | 12.3 | 11.5 | 38.6 | 35.5 |
| Selling, general and administrative | 4.1 | 4.2 | 12.4 | 12.4 |
| EBITDA ¹ | 7.1 | 7.2 | 17.5 | 20.3 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 1.9 | 2.0 | 5.8 | 6.1 |
| Income from operations | 5.2 | 5.2 | 11.7 | 14.2 |
| Other expense: | | | | |
| Foreign currency gains/(losses) | (0.3) | (0.3) | (1.2) | (0.6) |
| Interest expense, net | (0.1) | — | (0.2) | (0.1) |
| Total other income/(expense) | (0.4) | (0.3) | (1.4) | (0.7) |
| Net income before income taxes | 4.8 | 4.9 | 10.3 | 13.5 |
| Income taxes | 1.8 | 2.1 | 5.8 | 6.3 |
| Net income | \$ 3.0 | \$ 2.8 | \$ 4.5 | \$ 7.2 |

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EDN Sovintel, LLC
Condensed Balance Sheet (unaudited)
(amounts in millions)

| | <u>12/31/99</u> | <u>9/30/00</u> |
|--|-----------------|----------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets | | |
| Cash | \$ 2.6 | \$ 7.1 |
| Accounts receivable, net | 16.9 | 16.7 |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | 6.1 | 6.6 |
| Total current assets | 25.6 | 30.4 |
| Property and equipment, net | 50.4 | 51.2 |
| Deferred expenses and other assets | 1.6 | 2.1 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$ 77.6 | \$ 83.7 |
| LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY | | |
| Current liabilities | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | \$ 12.2 | \$ 10.7 |
| Debt maturing within one year | 4.0 | 0.7 |
| Other current liabilities | 4.3 | 8.5 |
| Total current liabilities | 20.5 | 19.9 |
| Other liabilities | — | 1.5 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 20.5 | 21.4 |
| TOTAL MEMBERS' EQUITY | 57.1 | 62.3 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY | \$ 77.6 | \$ 83.7 |

Notes to data for Golden Telecom and Sovintel:

1. EBITDA is earnings/(loss) from operations before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, foreign currency gains/(losses), other (expense)/income and non-recurring expenses. EBITDA is a measure of a company's performance commonly used in the telecommunications industry, but should not be construed as an alternative to net income/(loss) determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as an indicator of operating performance or as an alternative to cash from operating activities determined in accordance with GAAP as a measure of liquidity.
2. Proportional revenue is calculated using the actual revenues for each entity, net of intercompany revenues, multiplied by the ownership percentage held by GTI as of September 30, 2000.
3. Proportional EBITDA is calculated using the actual EBITDA for each entity multiplied by the ownership percentage held by GTI as of September 30, 2000.
4. Minute data for the abandoned cellular ventures is included only up to August 31, 1999. The remaining data excludes the abandoned cellular ventures.
5. Dial-up Internet subscribers is the number of unique users (or logins) who have logged on to the system and made a payment during the month in question, regardless of whether they are enabled or disabled at month end. It specifically excludes "on-trial" users, free users and internal users.