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OSGi™ Alliance and ERTICO Announce Collaboration for 3rd Generation Telematics Development

3GT project leverages the OSGi specifications to find solutions to the telematics lifecycle conflict

San Ramon, Calif., U.S.A. - The OSGi Alliance and ERTICO today formally announced their collaboration in the 3rd Generation Telematics (3GT) project, tasked with finding solutions to meet lifecycle requirements of automotive manufacturers in the fast-moving software market.

The conflict between the lifecycles of vehicles and their telematics components is a constant headache to the automotive industry. The OSGi specifications help solve this problem by providing a framework for managing the lifecycle of network-delivered applications. The goal of 3GT is to help establish OSGi technology-based in-vehicle telematics platforms in the European mass market by ensuring interoperability between the products of different middleware providers, terminal manufacturers and service providers. This will be done by establishing common telematics interfaces for OSGi technology-based service delivery.

John Barr, President of the OSGi Alliance, said, "We were always aware that our work was applicable across a wide range of industries and we're very pleased to be able to work with specialized sector knowledge groups to map our generic capabilities onto specific vertical sector requirements. This is great both for the OSGi Alliance and for the 3GT initiative, which doesn't have to re-invent the wheel."

The project draws on the expertise of many leading telematics companies including ACUNIA, BMW, Robert Bosch, C.R.F., Ericsson, Gatespace, Mizar Mediaservice, Adam Opel, PSA Peugeot Citroen, TNO, Vodafone PASSO, Volvo Technology Corporation, Webraska Mobile Technologies and Wirellesscar. The project is co-funded by the European Union's Information Society Research Programme and is expected to last from June 2002 through to November 2003.

Peter Van der Perre, ERTICO Project Manager, said, "3GT is extending OSGi specifications with a new specification for end-to-end telematics service delivery. It extends some of the vehicle specific work that the OSGi Alliance has already carried out and concentrates on the remote management of the overall system. The project will test the interoperability aspects of the resulting specifications across five sites managed by carmakers. This will yield rich validation results allowing the 3GT results to be rapidly endorsed by the OSGi Alliance."

The next meeting of the 3GT forum will take place on January 23rd, 2003 and representatives of the OSGi Alliance will be meeting with the 3GT forum to review the integration of the OSGi specifications into the project prior to this meeting, on the 22nd January 2003.

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About the OSGi Alliance

The OSGi Alliance and its members specify, create, advance, and promote an open service delivery and management platform and foster its wide industry adoption. The OSGi Alliance serves as the focal point for a collaborative ecosystem of service provider, technology, industrial, consumer and automotive electronics communities. As an independent non-profit corporation, the OSGi Alliance also provides for the fair and uniform creation and distribution of relevant intellectual property – including specifications, reference implementations, and test suites – to all its members.

The OSGi Service Platform is an extensible integration platform used to remotely and dynamically deploy, provision, maintain, and manage applications and services to devices in networked environments, such as homes, vehicles, mobile handhelds, and industrial settings.

Membership is open to any interested party, including Internet service providers, network operators, original equipment manufacturers, independent software vendors, end users, academic institutions, government agencies, and non-profit organizations. The consortium's Web site address is <http://www.osgi.org>.

The OSGi 2003 World Congress will be held October 21-24 in Düsseldorf Germany. Applications and software developers, service aggregators, hardware platform providers, consumer electronics and automotive manufacturers will discuss the latest product developments and deployments. This will provide an excellent opportunity for developers to network with the OSGi community and learn how to develop their own OSGi service bundles. For registration information go to www.osgiworldcongress.com.

About ERTICO

ERTICO is a Europe-wide, not-for-profit public/private partnership for ITS (Intelligent Transport Systems and Services) set up in 1991 at the initiative of leading European industrialists, national governments and the European Commission. ERTICO's mission is to promote and support the implementation of Intelligent Transport Systems and Services in Europe, ensuring sustainable mobility, travel satisfaction and high economic returns. By joining ERTICO, organizations can work more effectively together and achieve vital synergies to create a successful European ITS market. For more information about ERTICO, visit its website at www.ertico.com.

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