For Immediate Release  
April 25, 2003

AMI-C Adopts OSGi™ Service Platform Release 3

Common standard to benefit consumers and software developers

Bloomfield Hills, MI, and San Ramon, Calif. – The Automotive Multimedia Interface Collaboration (AMI-C) announced today that it is releasing a complete set of software specifications utilizing the OSGi Service Platform Release 3 technology specification as the underlying framework for its software platform for mobile information and entertainment systems.

The AMI-C specifications will enable software developers to write applications that can run in any make or model vehicle by providing a uniform set of interfaces for software applications in all in-vehicle computing platforms, including navigation systems, telematics units and entertainment controllers.

“Companies can benefit from significant savings in software development costs because the AMI-C specifications eliminate the need for programs and applications to be custom-written for individual vehicle platforms,” said AMI-C Software Team Leader Dr. Ed Nelson (Ford Motor Co.).

"The OSGi Alliance has had a very productive relationship with AMI-C and the automotive industry since early 2000,” said Dr. John R. Barr, President of OSGi and Director of Standards Realization for Motorola. “We are pleased with the industry-wide cooperation that has gone into the adoption of the OSGi Service Platform Release 3 specification as the underlying framework of the AMI-C software platform for mobile information and entertainment solutions.”

The AMI-C specifications are based on the Java™ programming language and utilize the new OSGi Service Platform Release 3 specification. The OSGi Service Platform specification defines a hardware independent software infrastructure that provides a uniform environment for vehicle-side application software. It provides a widely supported framework for the installation and management of software-based services that meet many of the requirements of the automotive domain. It has also allowed AMI-C to define their own vehicle specific APIs using the OSGi service bundle component architecture.

The third release of the OSGi Service Platform specification extends the existing Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) into new areas. A significant number of new services are defined and the basic specification has been enhanced with several functions to simplify the deployment of OSGi based applications including functions for XML parsing, controlled start order, and flexible generic I/O. Initiated by the automotive industry, but with cross-industry applicability, new specifications have been defined for accessing physical positioning, and constructing new data connections between pre-existing R3 software components. The release may be downloaded from the OSGi Alliance website, www.osgi.org.

Two key parts of the AMI-C specification are the Vehicle Services Interface (VSI) API and the Human Machine Interface (HMI) API. The VSI API provides a uniform way of accessing information about vehicle status, such as fuel level or diagnostic information, as well as providing control of certain vehicle functions, such as door locks. The HMI API provides software applications with a method of sending and receiving
information to or from the driver or vehicle occupant without the application having prior knowledge of the vehicle-specific HMI devices, such as speakers, displays, buttons and switches.

In addition to the VSI and HMI, AMI-C has defined eight other infrastructure APIs. It has also defined an initial application level API for off-board navigation. This API will allow applications that need to use navigation or location services to access these uniformly across vehicles and independent of the specifics of the remote navigation server interface.

The AMI-C specifications are being published on the AMI-C web site (www.ami-c.org) as they become available. The release process is expected to be complete by the end of April.

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 AMI-C

AMI-C is a global organization of vehicle manufacturers. The organization is supported by automotive and technology companies from around the world. For more information, visit www.ami-c.org.

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(This press released was revised 8/12/03 to reflect organizational name and logo changes)