For Immediate Release

OSGi Provides Open Platform for the Internet-Enabled Car

Member Companies Working to Develop Automotive Solutions Utilizing the OSGi Framework

San Ramon, Calif. – (October 16, 2000) – As the automotive industry explores the vehicle of the future this week at the Convergence 2000 show in Detroit, members of the Open Services Gateway Initiative (OSGi) are utilizing the OSGi Specification Release 1.0 as a powerful platform for the network delivery of managed services to the automobile.

OSGi makes it possible to access, download and use services in a vehicle’s mobile environment, creating an enormous potential for car manufacturers and service providers to offer new value-added services to drivers and passengers. From applications such as remote door lock/unlock, on-demand navigation and remote diagnostics to banking, entertainment and Web browsing, OSGi enables the delivery of dynamic new services on demand. With the growing adoption of the OSGi platform in the residential market, the automobile will become a natural extension of the home network.

OSGi is in the process of establishing the OSGi Mobility Expert Group for member companies to further define the application of OSGi in mobile environments. Typically, mobile gateways contain or interact with one or more devices that are able to retrieve the current position of the gateway. The OSGi Mobility Expert Group will work to define a standard application programming interface (API) to obtain the location of the gateway and provide location information to applications. The first formation meeting is scheduled for October 26-27, 2000, hosted by SmartMove at its headquarters in Leuven, Belgium.

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“OSGi is gaining traction in the automotive industry as many of our member companies work with automotive manufacturers to develop solutions based on the OSGi services framework,” said John Barr, president of OSGi, and director, Architecture and Technology Strategy for Personal Area Networks, Motorola. “The car is a natural extension of the home, and OSGi enables an open platform for network delivery of managed services to either environment.”

OSGi (http://www.osgi.org) is an independent, non-profit corporation composed of 75 technology companies working to define and promote open standards for the delivery of multiple services over wide-area networks to local networks and devices in the home, small office, and the automobile. The OSGi specification defines an open framework that enables multiple software services to be loaded and run on a services gateway. Once resident in a vehicle, an OSGi-compliant services gateway enables the delivery of managed services and information to the vehicle, and also creates a platform for information and services exchange between home networks and tomorrow’s car networks.

To follow is a sampling of testimonials from OSGi member companies about the potential of OSGi for automotive and mobile applications. A complete list of OSGi member companies is available at http://www.osgi.org/about/members.html.

Adtranz

“By using the OSGi platform, we can deliver a product to our customers which gives them the opportunity to exploit new services and to keep them updated,” said René Steiner, product manager services, Adtranz Train Control & Communications. “Furthermore, it is a platform which allows us to efficiently provide our know-how to vehicle operators to steadily improve the operation and maintenance process. The reaction of our customers on the field trials in a subway and a locomotive confirmed the market need for a system that combines platform stability and flexibility for using upcoming business opportunities. We firmly believe in the applicability of the OSGi platform in a mobile environment.”

Contact:
René Steiner
Adtranz Train Control & Communication
(+41) 1 318 34 91
rene.steiner@ch.adtranz.com

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Ericsson

“Ericsson has already proven the OSGi concept together with vehicle manufacturers,” said Robert Linnarsson, vice president of Ericsson Business Innovation AB, head of Automotive Communications. “We are confident that OSGi will enable vehicle manufacturers to dramatically reduce time to market for advanced vehicle related services, such as vehicle diagnostics, personalization and software management.”

Contact:
Robert Linnarsson, Automotive Communications
Ericsson Business Innovation AB
(+46) 8 757 0821 or (+46) 70 590 1121
robert.linnarsson@era.ericsson.se

Gatespace

“Gatespace is committed to developing secure, reliable and cost-effective software platforms for network-based services for services gateways,” said Staffan Truve, CEO and president of Gatespace. “We see the automotive market, next to the residential, as one of the most promising areas where services gateways will take an important role within the next few years. The change in business models this development will bring to the automotive industry is tremendous, and Gatespace is already participating in several development projects for automotive and other mobile services gateways. Based on the experiences from these projects, Gatespace will work to extend the OSGi specification with new features needed in the automotive and mobile markets.”

Contact:
Staffan Truve
Gatespace
(+46) 70 59 33 885
truve@gatespace.com

IBM

“IBM saw very early on the applicability of OSGi specifications far beyond home residential service gateways and has actively promoted OSGi specifications for the automotive market,” said Dan Bandera, Business Line Manager - Device Software, IBM Pervasive Computing Division. “At the same time, having worked closely with top auto manufacturers through AMI-C (Automotive Multimedia Interactive Collaboration), IBM fully embraces all open standards initiatives in helping this market grow.”

Contact:
Dan Bandera
IBM Pervasive Computing
(512) 838-2739
bandera@us.ibm.com

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Motorola

“OSGi is an essential enabling technology for application lifecycle management of in-vehicle devices that are wirelessly connected to the network,” said Tim VanGoethem, director of sales and marketing, Network System Platforms and Software, Motorola Telematics Communications Group. “The ability to download new applications to mobile devices in a well-managed and secure way will be critical to the success of systems that must remain exciting for the life of an automobile. Motorola’s leadership position in OSGi fits well with our mission to provide compelling solutions for the person, home, work team and automobile.”

Contact:
Tim VanGoethem
Motorola Telematics Communications Group
Tim.Vangoethem@motorola.com

ProSyst Software

“OSGi has done a very good job at focusing on both home networks and tomorrow’s car networks,” said Daniel Schellhoss, co-founder and co-CEO of ProSyst Software AG. “OSGi enables the access, download and use of services and information at home and in a vehicle’s mobile environment, and the other way around - creating an enormous potential for telematics service providers to offer their services to drivers and passengers. On-demand navigation, remote diagnostics, car theft, email, Web browsing, online shopping, and more will be brought to customers by this single open platform. ProSyst has been working to make our mBedded Server software product attractive for the automotive industry. mBedded Server, which is shipping already, is designed to be compliant with the OSGi framework plus has many ready to use services. It is the key software element to gateway scenarios. It supports hardware platforms that are suitable to be used in cars (like those based on SH3) and it also support various JVMs suitable for automotive applications, such as HP Chai and QNX.”

Contact:
Daniel Schellhoss
ProSyst Software AG
(+49) 221 6604 203
d.schellhoss@prosyst.com

Sun Microsystems

“OSGi is all about managed delivery of network services and the automobile provides a natural platform for OSGi service gateways,” said Curtis Sasaki, director of marketing, Sun Microsystems. “With the growing demand for in-car services like navigation, remote diagnostics and door lock/unlock, theft protection, multimedia on-demand, the Java technology-based OSGi standard will enable exciting new business models for car manufacturers and service providers.”

Contact:
Preston Turner
Burson-Marsteller
SmartMove

“SmartMove believes that in the near future, services and information delivery to home and car networks will be organized by means of one common platform,” said Steven Buytaert, co-CEO at SmartMove. “With the OSGi reference framework running on SmartMove’s Open Telematics Framework, SmartMove makes it possible to exchange information and services between providers and an in-house gateway, the same way it does with the vehicle. We have been actively participating within OSGi, showing our commitment to working with others, not only to create standards for information and service delivery to the vehicle, but also to create a platform for information and services exchange between home networks and tomorrow’s car networks.”

Contacts:
Wouter Piepers     Barrett Kalellis
SmartMove nv      Hedge & Company, Inc.
(+32) 16 31 00 20 or (+32) 016 30 09 76 (248) 350-2190
wouter.piepers@smartmove-eu.com   bkalellis@hedgeco.com

About OSGi

The OSGi is a non-profit corporation formed to provide a forum for the creation of open specifications for the delivery of multiple services over wide-area networks to local networks and devices, and to accelerate the demand for products and services based on these specifications worldwide through the sponsorship of market and user education programs. The San Ramon, California, USA-based consortium comprises 75 member organizations from around the globe. 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.

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For further information contact:

David Nieland     Wendy Dunn     Deepak Kamlani
Managing Director Account Executive Executive Director – OSGi
BSMG Worldwide     BSMG Worldwide              interprise ventures
Tel: +1 972 830 2663  Tel: +1 972 830 4731  Tel: +1 925 277 8110
dnieland@bsmg.com  wdunn@bsmg.com  dkamlani@inventures.com