

Siemens extends HiPath OpenOffice ME providing enterprise level functionality for UK's small and medium businesses

New features deliver for competitive advantage, increased productivity and organisational efficiency

Siemens Enterprise Communications today announces added functionality for HiPath OpenOffice ME. With enhanced audio conferencing, Outlook integration and desk sharing functionality HiPath OpenOffice ME delivers a unified communications solution that enables small and medium UK businesses to create a dynamic business platform environment to compete more efficiently in an increasingly difficult economic climate.

Available from Siemens' channel partners, HiPath OpenOffice ME is a seamless communications system combining phone calls (fixed line and mobile), voicemail boxes, conferencing, fax and messaging into a single unified solution. Designed and specifically priced for small and medium companies, HiPath OpenOffice ME is a unified communications solution that incorporates the latest in internet voice technology, open standards and integrates seamlessly into existing IT environments.

Andy Swain, Senior Technical Sales Consultant, Nouveau Solutions Limited, says: "Our relationship with Siemens has been consistently strong; we are a tier 1 partner and the breadth of features available with HiPath OpenOffice ME was an important factor in our decision to offer the product to our customers. Integration with existing infrastructure and ease of use are two things that we feel are imperative to offer and this, coupled with a strong support network, demonstrates our continuing commitment to HiPath OpenOffice ME."

Included in the new version are 3 key features:

- Enhanced audio conferencing - permanent dial-in conference bridge meaning just one number for all conference calls and no limits on conference call length
- Enhanced Outlook integration - automatic Outlook Calendar synchronization meaning it's only necessary to enter information once
- Greater support for hot desking – desksharers have their own personal log in; keeps working when you're not – callers hear the appropriate announcements according to stored status; call forwarding rules still active; when voicemail is left email/call/SMS notification received

Kate Meehan, Head of Corporate Services, Institute of Physics, whose 150 London staff support physicists and promote the world of physics in the UK, says: "As an organisation, we work at the forefront of technology and it is important for us to reflect that in all areas of our business. We now have a unified communications solution providing a wireless IP telephony environment along with presence, "call me" and the option to expand the number of users quickly and easily. Both Nouveau and Siemens have created a system that is much simpler and cleaner to use and manage; time and cost savings are already apparent, and it has been well received by all our staff because they can own and manage their own desks."

Leon Mangan, director, Indirect Channel, Siemens Enterprise Communications comments: "UK companies need to become more operationally efficient to compete in today's economy. HiPath OpenOffice ME is a highly innovative, award winning product that provides effective ways of streamlining communications. The latest enhancements introduce new functionality that builds on the stability, resilience and flexibility we have already established in the product. We have worked with both our customers and channel partners to identify key requirements to support their businesses, audio conferencing, Outlook integration and support for desk sharing being their top requests."

Other new features include:

- Optimised handling of group voicemail – minimised administration and streamlined productivity
- Professional announcements and greeting for callers – allows companies to inform callers about news, events, directions or other important pieces of information
- Call back list for missed incoming and outgoing calls – view all unanswered calls in one place
- Programmable speed dial keys for desktop phones – can now be fulfilled via myPortal, myPortal Outlook Plug-in, and myAttendant Console
- Caller names displayed – LDAP connected phone directories included in search loop for incoming calls
- Dial by name or extensions for AutoAttendant – simplifies configuration for dial by name or extension
- Voicemail callback – immediately dial out to voicemail caller
- Urgent messages – if voicemail is marked as urgent related voicemail delivered as an email will be marked as urgent too
- Simplified fax messaging – simplified faxing via myPortal

About Siemens Enterprise Communications

Siemens Enterprise Communications is a joint venture between the private equity firm The Gores Group, a leading private equity firm, and Siemens AG. The joint venture incorporates Siemens Enterprise Communications GmbH & Co. KG, its worldwide affiliates and the businesses of Enterasys Networks and SER Solutions, creating a new leader in enterprise communications - strong in unified communications, contact centers and secure networks. More than 14,000 employees worldwide follow an Open Communications approach, providing enterprise communications and data networking solutions for enterprises of all sizes. This enables business processes to be more productive, faster and more secure within any network or information technology infrastructure. In fiscal 2007 Siemens Enterprise Communications generated revenues of approximately 3.2 billion Euros. For more information about Siemens Enterprise Communications, please visit www.siemens.com/open.

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