



Press Release

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Integra SP And B2Bits Launch Multi-Message Protocol Appliance, Delivering Low-Cost Connectivity For Financial Institutions

MarketConnect™ leverages FIX and other financial protocols to provide a cost effective, high-specification solution to meet the messaging needs of financial institutions

9th September 2003 – London, UK – Integra SP, a specialist real time software and integration solutions provider and B2Bits, a financial messaging and trading technology specialist, today launched MarketConnect™, a financial multi-message, middleware agnostic network appliance that has been developed as part of a joint venture between the two companies. Supporting FIX and a range of other financial messaging protocols, MarketConnect™ will provide financial institutions with a high performance, truly scalable integration platform at an affordable price.

MarketConnect™ supports all asset classes, enabling asset managers, brokers, banks, custodians and others to implement cost efficient STP processes by leveraging FIX and other financial protocols. The solution supports FIX 4.0 through to 4.4, as well as FIXML and incorporates full standby and failover functionality, alongside real-time monitoring, testing and certification capabilities. Numerous application transport protocols are supported including IBM/MQ, JMS, HTTP, TC/IP and CORBA. MarketConnect™ is packaged with fixed price bandwidth to multiple destinations by MoneyLine Networks.

Sven Thiele, CEO of Integra SP commented: "MarketConnect™ is a high performance, scalable financial messaging integration platform that sets new standards for price performance and functionality. Ultimately, the appliance will simplify the way financial institutions look at the edge of network STP integration and significantly lower the cost. Our vision to provide a middleware agnostic appliance that supports FIX, FIXML, SWIFT, Oasys, TWIST and other financial message formats at a competitive price has already created significant market traction. "

Neil Crisp, Director of Business Operations at B2Bits added: "MarketConnect™ endorses our drive to commoditise IT infrastructure for financial Institutions. This offers customers a low cost, high quality approach to reduce the cost of performing business, allowing concentration on value added processes. The fixed price bandwidth fee irrespective of number of destinations by MoneyLine Networks makes this an extremely attractive package."

Connectivity services for MarketConnect™ are being provided by Moneyline Networks (owned by Moneyline Telerate), a full-service communications solutions provider serving the financial services community exclusively. Moneyline Networks operates a secure extranet enabling service providers like Integra SP to efficiently distribute their applications to financial institutions around the world; the extranet also makes it possible for financial institutions to communicate with each other over a high quality, cost-efficient network.

Brian Andreyko, Vice President of Business Strategy for Moneyline Networks, said, "The availability of the MarketConnect solution represents a milestone for the financial industry and are very pleased to work with Integra SP, B2Bits and Sun Microsystems to enable them to optimize our global utility network to get their clients up and running quickly and affordably. We believe the combination of MarketConnect's revolutionary FIX protocol solution and our ability to connect the FIX message community will accelerate the adoption of a service that brings tremendous efficiencies to the industry."

MarketConnect™ will also be promoted through Sun Microsystems, who will actively market the capability of the product alongside its Edge server products and SunOne software - supporting marketing and logistics on a global basis through its direct, channel and reseller networks. SUN will engage its Customer Ready Solutions capability which is already in use for FIX bundles to facilitate volume distribution. SUN services and specialist SI partners will collaborate to provide a complete solution ready capability - reducing the cost and complexity of technology procurement.

Nigel Woodward, Global Manager Capital Markets and Securities at SUN comments " MarketConnect™ is a natural extension of our longstanding presence in the global wholesale market. The MarketConnect™ proposition of supporting financial messaging standards across all transports and FIX through FIXEdge now extends this value proposition significantly. Alignment with the SUNONE software range ensures resilience and interoperability across key Java web service functions"

About B2Bits

B2BITS was founded with a core belief that financial markets software is a service and this has driven a unique approach to delivering the most complete range of FIX products available. B2BITS has lowered the barriers to electronic connectivity through the introduction of the FIX Antenna range of FIX Engines, providing world beating performance on entry level hardware and across a choice of operating systems driving commoditisation. B2BITS has also developed a range of automated testing tools for client testing and regression testing which dramatically reduce the cost and time associated with enabling new counterparty relationships.

B2BITS has offices in London and New York and customers range from the largest sell side brokers through to small hedge fund operations. www.btobits.com

About Integra SP

Integra SP provides software for the visualisation, process management and integration of real-time systems. Integra SP's domain expertise and Altio product set enable businesses to 'connect vision to reality' through managed change. The Altio product set comprises XML based tools for real-time thin client visualisation, dynamic streaming and heterogeneous process connectivity. Through its global presence Integra SP supports customers and partners within the Finance, Energy and Public Sectors. www.integrasp.com

About Moneyline Networks

Moneyline Networks brings the experience and expertise in building financial communications networks necessary to help institutions and service providers develop smart, scalable solutions and services. The team at Moneyline Networks helps customers engineer reliable communications platforms supporting real-time information, multimedia collaboration and transaction systems. Moneyline Networks operates an extranet connecting the financial community - a secure network enabling content providers to efficiently distribute their applications to financial institutions around the world, and allows those same customers to receive multiple applications over the same, managed IP connection. Moneyline Networks is owned by Moneyline Telerate, a market data services provider providing content from over 1,500 sources including 280 exchanges to over 4,800 financial institutions. Moneyline Telerate reaches over 40,000 professional desktops in 45 countries.

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