

## **Philips Synergy makes Mobile Phones Smarter with Psion Software**

London, United Kingdom - March 5th 1998 - Philips Consumer Communications has this week launched a new Smartphone clip-on, based on Psion Software's EPOC operating system. The innovative new product, connected with a standard Philips Ilium™ GSM mobile phone, provides advanced data, messaging and voice communications capabilities for mobile users.

The lightweight and compact Smartphone add-on, called Synergy™, clips on to the Philips Ilium and allows users to browse the Internet, send and receive emails, faxes and data, and more easily compose messages for the Short Message Service (SMS). Powered by EPOC, Synergy is also a fully functional organizer which includes EPOC applications such as Agenda, To Do lists, clock and calculator. Synergy will be available in Europe in the second quarter 1998.

Jorgen Bredeesen, General Manager Europe, Middle East and Africa, PCC comments "Ever since wireless technology was first introduced, people have been seeking ways to provide full communications functionality - including comprehensive voice, data and messaging - over the airwaves. With Ilium Synergy we believe we've achieved it."

As a Smartphone clip-on device for mobile phones, Synergy introduces a new product category into the mobile phone market. When voice communications capabilities are all that are required, users have the option of carrying around just the Ilium phone. When voice, data and messaging communications are needed for full mobile functionality users can clip on the Synergy device.

Whilst containing a comprehensive suite of mobile applications, Synergy also retains the small size form factor crucial for truly portable devices by eliminating the need for a physical keyboard. User entry and navigation is enabled by the use of a stylus using the latest handwriting technology and a touch-screen keyboard on the backlit 640x200 pixel touch-screen display.

"Synergy is a radically new concept, destined to open up new opportunities in the Smartphone market." commented Juha Christensen, Vice President, Licensing, Psion Software. "Using EPOC as their operating system allows OEMs to produce innovative voice and data communication devices which offer great ease-of-use and thus appeal to mass market users. The introduction of these new smart devices into the market increases choice and mobile functionality for the corporate and consumer user. With conservative estimates of the size of the Smartphone and Communicator market at 29 million units in 2001, Psion Software is uniquely placed with its licensees to benefit from the rapid growth in this industry."

Psion Software worked closely with PCC to port and develop the EPOC operating software for the Synergy device. As EPOC is a modular operating system, PCC were able to use Psion Software's applications with a new Graphical User Interface fit for purpose for the Synergy Smartphone and subsequent product evolutions.

Compelling features for users of the Synergy clip-on include, for example, the ability to compose emails whilst still being able to receive voice calls, SMS messages or faxes. Advanced synchronization and connectivity software also allows users to backup, save and share data by interfacing with desktop computers and other EPOC devices through infrared or RS232 serial connection.

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## Notes to Editors

### About EPOC

EPOC is a highly optimised, C++, multi-tasking, 32-bit operating system for mobile ROM-based computing products and includes a fully featured suite of Personal Information Management, productivity and communications applications. The operating system is entirely modular and supports embedded graphics and voice recording with a combination of pen and keyboard input.

### About Psion Software PLC

Psion Software licenses a range of products including the EPOC32 operating system, which has been designed for mobile communication and computing products such as communicators, smartphones and mobile network computers and the EPOC16 operating system which is designed for mobile consumer computing products such as handheld computers and organizers.

EPOC32 lies at the heart of the award winning Psion Series 5, Geofox's Geofox-One mobile computer and the Philips Consumer Communications Synergy clip-on Smartphone. Other licensees will be announced in line with their product strategy. EPOC16 is the operating system behind thirty five consumer and industrial handheld products including the world's best selling handheld computer, the Psion Series 3, and the Workabout industrial handheld computer. With headquarters in London, England, and operations in Silicon Valley, California and Kanazawa, Japan, the company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Psion PLC. Psion Software's website can be found at <http://www.software.pSION.com/>.

### About Philips Consumer Communications

Philips Consumer Communications, a Lucent Technologies and Philips Electronics venture, designs, manufactures and markets a complete range of personal communications products including digital and analog cellular and cordless phones, corded phones, answering machines, screen phones and pagers. The union of the two businesses has created a company that is the world leader in corded and cordless phones and answering machines. The partnership was formed October 1, 1997 with 60 percent interest in the venture held by Philips Electronics and 40 percent held by Lucent Technologies. For more information, visit PCC's web site: <http://www.pcc.philips.com/>.

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