



Press release

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## **APLICOM LAUNCHES NEW, AFFORDABLE FLEET MANAGEMENT SOLUTION FOR SMALL AND MID-SIZED VEHICLE FLEETS**

A new fleet management solution, Aplicom Fleet, has been launched by Aplicom, the leading manufacturer of professional vehicle IT systems in Europe.

This new, affordable, solution offers the benefits of fleet management functions, such as data communication, vehicle monitoring and automatic vehicle location, for small and medium sized companies. Until now these services have only been available for big fleet operators.

Aplicom Fleet is a flexible, off-the-shelf fleet management solution, which helps to expand companies' information systems to fleet vehicles. It dramatically improves the information flow between the home base and the vehicles. It provides the operator with messaging, order dispatching, monitoring and automatic vehicle location (AVL) functions.

Aplicom Fleet is based around the proven range of Aplicom vehicle computers. The solution allows managers to locate and monitor fleet vehicles on digitised maps on a PC monitor, and communicate work orders, addresses and other data to vehicle drivers via GSM data communication. As an open and modular solution, it can be integrated with all commonly used IT systems, computer environments or even existing fleet management solutions. Aplicom Fleet has been designed to be easy to install, operate and upgrade.

The target markets for Aplicom Fleet include small and mid-sized companies requiring an affordable, smart fleet management system where there is a need for demonstrable and recorded improvements to productivity and efficiency of the fleet and vehicles in the fleet.

Aplicom Sales and Marketing Director Lasse Paakkola, says Aplicom Fleet: "offers significant improvements to process workflow, plus lower administration and communication costs. At the same time it will increase transportation and efficiency and, most importantly, lower vehicle running and fuel costs. As a modular and flexible solution Aplicom Fleet brings the benefits of the large, customised fleet systems within reach of even the smallest fleet companies."

The range of Aplicom vehicle computers and peripherals is available through a network of appointed Systems Partners covering the whole of Europe including the UK and Ireland. Systems Partners sell and install the Aplicom Fleet solution to suit customer needs – and offer professional product support.

Colin Lacey, Managing Director of Aplicom Systems Partner, Smart Telematics Ltd., said: "We are very pleased to offer our customers Aplicom Fleet as an "off-the-shelf" software solution. It is easy to use and well proven throughout mainland Europe. Customers now have a choice of which software best suits their operational requirements."

Lasse Paakkola adds: "There is a growing need for systems that maximise the productivity of vehicles, improve customer service, and increase load and driver security, while providing real savings in both time and money.

"With Aplicom Fleet we are supplying an affordable, easy-to-use solution that is independent of vehicle manufacturers. It operates on most computer systems and GSM networks, and is fully compatible with the next generation of mobile communication networks.

"As a next step these markets can move forward, seamlessly, to developing more complex solutions for their individual requirements using Aplicom vehicle computers."

## Technical data:

Aplicom Fleet solution consists of a modular PC software package: Aplicom fleet Host for the vehicle command and control centre (office), and Aplicom Fleet Client software developed for Aplicom vehicle computers.

### Aplicom Fleet Host:

- Two-way GSM multi-SMS communication
  - Transmission of form, predefined, status and freely written text messages
  - Smart transmission management (transmission time, receivers, message read confirmation, alarm)
  - Supports up to three COM ports and GSM modems (per one installation)
- Advanced vehicle location
  - Smart vehicle position reports
  - Display of vehicle positions on digital maps
- Monitoring and database functions
  - Messaging management (storage and browsing)
  - Vehicle report management (storage and browsing)
- Host interface
  - Information change between Fleet Host and other office IT systems
- User management
  - User accounts definition
  - User rights assignment
- For commercial Pentium PC with Windows operation systems
- Installation also on a computer network (multi-user system)

### Aplicom Fleet Client

- Available for Aplicom ICA-series and C-series vehicle computers
- Support of two-way GSM multi-SMS communication
  - Transmission of form, predefined, status and freely written text messages
  - Power-on/power-off messages
  - Buffering messages
- Support of advanced vehicle location functions
- GSM remote configuration of parameters and messages
- Alarm function
- Delayed power-off function

## Aplicom

Aplicom is the leading manufacturer of professional IT systems within vehicles in Europe. The Finnish-owned Aplicom designs and produces technologically advanced, fully programmable computer hardware for the vehicle environment, compatible with all recognised software systems, and which accommodate bespoke software packages.

Over 90 percent of Aplicom's products are exported. Aplicom's products are used by, among others, Schenker-BTL, DaimlerChrysler, many drivers' associations in Central Europe, the Norwegian Post, rural bus services and several ambulance trusts in the UK.

With Aplicom's products, companies can link vehicles into their information system. Their service improves and fleet management becomes more effective, which enhances their competitiveness in the market. A vehicle computer adds to safety and makes better following of vehicles' movements and condition possible.

Aplicom's research and development unit and the production department are located in Äänekoski, Finland. Selling and marketing functions are carried out in Helsinki, Finland.