![Patton Electronics Co. logo]

News Release

For details, contact:
Chris Christner
Director of Marketing Communications
Phone: +1 301.975.1000

For Immediate Release
March 17, 2008

Patton Wins Unified Communications 2007 Product of the Year

SmartNode™ claims its fifth major award in three years as UC-magazine recognizes SmartNode™ 4650 for outstanding innovation.

SmartNode™ VoIP... more than just talk.

GAITHERSBURG, MD and BERN, SWITZERLAND: Patton—the leader in business and carrier-class network access, connectivity, and VoIP equipment—together with Patton-Inalp Networks AG—creator of SmartNode™ industry-leading VoIP technology—announced today that *UNIFIED COMMUNICATIONS* magazine (www.uc-mag.com) has named the SmartNode™ 4650 Multiport ISDN VoIP IAD with G.SHDSL.bis Interface as recipient of the 2007 Product of the Year Award.

The announcement marks the fifth major award SmartNode™ has claimed since 2005. Patton won INTERNET TELEPHONY® magazine's Product of the Year for 2005, 2006 and 2007, while Patton's converged customer solution won the 2007 Excellence Award.

Combining an on-board G.SHDSL.bis port with dual Ethernet ports, and up to 5 BRIs for 8 concurrent calls, the SN4650 interconnects existing TDM and ISDN-PSTN infrastructures with SIP and H.323 VoIP equipment and the (IP-based) unified communications cloud.

"We are honored," said John Wu, VoIP Product Manager, "to receive this prestigious award. the SmartNode™ 4650 puts small to medium businesses in the fast lane on the road to Unified Communications. In the current frenzy, certain vendors are hyping their UC features as hot news. Yet SmartNode has been unifying communications for years."

Offering every industry-standard interface combined with SessionRouter™ call-routing and numbering-plan adaptation, SmartNode™ has provided universal dial-plan support for unified communications for over five years—along such features as DownStreamQos™ for enhanced voice quality.

Recently, Patton announced their Unified Communications Agent (UCA) for SmartNode™ VoIP routers. The UCA provides VoIP and data survivability via dial-backup and IP-link re-

dundancy, voice and data security via [Voice-over-VPN](#), and presence/reachability via [SIP Registrar](#).

SmartNode™ UCA streamlines deployment of unified communications into existing business networks by providing simultaneous any-to-any multi-path switching between SIP, H.323, ISDN, and POTS calls with routing and conversion between TDM/PSTN and IP/Ethernet networks–plus T.38 and SuperG3 FAX.

Patton's upcoming [silver anniversary](#) will mark 25 years of integrating legacy and next-generation technologies.

"Patton has proven they are committed to quality and excellence while addressing real needs in the marketplace. Unified Communications is pleased to grant a 2007 Product of the Year Award to their SmartNode™ 4650," said Rich Tehrani, TMC President and Editor-in-Chief of Unified Communications magazine. We're proud to honor their hard work and accomplishments and look forward to more innovative solutions from Patton in the future."

Winners of 2007 Product of the Year Award will be featured in the March 2008 issue of [Unified Communications](#) magazine, [www.uc-mag.com](#).

About the SmartNode™ 4650 Multiport ISDN VoIP IAD with G.SHDSL.bis Interface

The SmartNode™ 4650 puts small to medium businesses in the fast lane on the road to Unified Communications by combining any-to-any connectivity and conversion with unified access, network convergence, video, FAX over IP, integrated deployment, communications survivability, presence/reachability, low-cost entry/no-cost growth, and superior interoperability.

Any-to-any Connectivity. In the current frenzy and buzz about UC, certain vendors have only recently started offering any-to-any connectivity and universal dial-plan support. With names like Unified Communications Proxy they tout such functionality as hot new features. Yet SmartNode, which offers every industry-standard interface combined with SessionRouter™ call-routing and numbering-plan adaptation, has been delivering these capabilities (along with much richer features (e.g. [DownStreamQos](#)™) for four to five years.

Unified Access. Combining an on-board G.SHDSL.bis port with dual Ethernet ports, and up to 5 BRIs for 8 concurrent calls, the IAD interconnects existing TDM and ISDN-PSTN infrastructures with SIP and H.323 VoIP equipment and the (IP-based) unified communications cloud.

Convergence. Along with broadband access, the SmartNode™ 4560 delivers converged voice, fax and data services that exceed the notoriously high standards of the ISDN community.

Video. Ready for triple-play applications, the SN4650 delivers video via IGMP v2/v3 proxy.

FAX over IP. Although delivering fax in VoIP environments is notoriously buggy, SmartNode delivers outstanding fax interoperability with support for both T.38 and G.711 fallback.

Integrated Deployment. The additional BRI port simplifies integrating VoIP and unified communications with existing networks in the real world. The port can be used to synchronize the gateway and as PSTN breakout for survivability and local access. By accepting incoming calls from the PST while routing outbound calls through the cost-saving VoIP network, the breakout shortens the number portability time-frame. For life-line relay the port can also integrate an ISDN emergency terminal powered from the public ISDN.

Communications Survivability. With such industry-leading features as Dial-Backup and IP Link Redundancy, SmartNode delivers state-of-the-art survivability—not only for voice, but also for data, at the same time.

Presence & Reachability. The recently added SIP registrar feature provides presence/reachability and simplifies set-up while further strengthening branch-office survivability.

Low-cost entry, no-cost growth. For a basic small-enterprise VoIP system, SIP registrar can dramatically reduce cost-of-entry by eliminating the expense of purchasing and installing a SIP server. VoIP-enabled small businesses can enjoy zero-cost growth by adding freeware soft-phones that can register with the SmartNode gateway—with no SIP server required.

Interoperability. SmartNode SIP registrar further enhances interoperability for the industry's "most interoperable" VoIP gateway. Patton's interoperability program has certified a long and growing list of major-brand softswitch vendors and IP-PBX vendors that includes Alcatel, Siemens, BroadSoft, Cirpack, 3CX, Asterisk, PingTel, and others for interoperability with SmartNode equipment.

About Unified Communications magazine
New in July 2007, *Unified Communications* magazine is devoted to educating enterprise decision makers on why and how they need to deploy unified communications (UC) solutions. Every issue of Unified Communications magazine features a comprehensive news section; case studies of successful deployments and lessons learned; interviews with leading hardware and software companies; and an 'industry' section, featuring analysis of important mergers and acquisition, partnerships and a Wall Street perspective on the unified communications market. Unified Communications has a subscriber base of 41,509.

About TMC
Technology Marketing Corporation (TMC) is an integrated global media company helping our clients build communities in print, online and in-person. TMC publishes *Customer Interaction Solutions*, *INTERNET TELEPHONY*, *Unified Communications*, and *IMS Magazine*. TMCnet, TMC's Web site, is the leading source of news and articles for the communications and technology industries. According to Quantcast, TMCnet reaches nearly one million U.S. unique visitors each month. TMCnet serves as many as three million unique visitors globally each month according to Webtrends. TMC is also the first publisher to test new products in its own on-site laboratories, TMC Labs. In addition, TMC produces INTERNET TELEPHONY Conference & EXPO, and Call Center 2.0 Conference. (*alexa.com is an amazon.com company that ranks Web sites by their traffic levels. Neither alexa.com nor amazon.com is affiliated with TMCnet.)

For more information about TMC, visit www.tmcnet.com.

TMC Contact:
Jan Pierret
203-852-6800, ext. 228
jpierret@tmcnet.com

About Patton
2007 is Patton's 25th year in business. Patton is a multi-national organization that manufactures voice and data-communications equipment for carrier, enterprise, and industrial networks worldwide. Incorporated in 1984, Patton markets a catalog of over 1000 products including SmartNode™ VoIP solutions that support SIP, H.323, and MGCP for analog and ISDN telephony; ForeFront™ multi-service access infrastructure solutions for TDM and IP service delivery (T1/E1, G.SHDSL, xDSL, dial-up); IPLink™ CPE solutions for last-mile/local-loop access (WAN routers, modems, remote access servers, NTUs, CSU/DSUs); CopperLink™ Ethernet Extenders; EtherBITS™ device servers; EnviroNET™ NEMA4-compliant hardened networking equipment, and a full range of network-connectivity Micro-Products (interface converters, short-range modems, multiplexers, surge protectors).

About Patton-Inalp
Inalp Networks was founded in 1998 to design, develop and market advanced Internet Protocol (IP) based multi-service platforms that deliver voice, video and data services over a converged network. Patton Electronics, Co. (Maryland, USA) and Inalp Networks AG (Berne, Switzerland) joined forces in 2002 to manufacture and market the SmartNode™ brand of advanced VoIP products. Patton-Inalp Networks AG is the VoIP competency center and Europe-Middle-East-Africa (EMEA) sales organization for Patton's business-class network access, connectivity and VoIP equipment.

For more information or a free catalog, contact sales@inalp.com.

Patton-Inalp Networks AG
Meriedweg 7
CH-3172 Niederwangen
Switzerland

Tel: +41 (0)31 985 25 25
Fax: +41 (0)31 985 25 26

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