

# Connections

The Newsletter for Socket Communications Resellers, Partners and Users

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## Read Socket's Newsletter Online Anytime

You are reading a print version of Socket's new online newsletter for resellers, investors, and users. The newsletter features the latest news about our products, partners, and the wireless communications industry. Plus, get the latest financial reports, success stories, and tips & tricks.

To read the online newsletter, please visit:

<http://www.socketcom.com/about/newsletter.asp>

## Office Depot Carries Socket Products Nationwide

In mid-September, Office Depot became the first nationwide retailer to feature products from Socket Communications. All 850 retail outlets are offering four of Socket's mobile connectivity products: the Bluetooth Connection Kit, Low Power Wireless LAN Card, Digital Phone Card, and 56K Modem CF Card.

**Office DEPOT**  
 What you need. What you need to know.

To find a store near you, visit <http://www.officedepot.com/stores/default.asp?SID=3KWMTF5BGSK58JKL18QM5U1KHRE8SBO&PP=1>

## CONNECTIVITY PRODUCT NEWS & REVIEWS



### Socket Introduces Bluetooth for Windows Notebooks

Connect wirelessly to your Bluetooth phone or printer from your notebook computer running Windows 98SE, Me, 2000 or XP. You can also ActiveSync between your notebook computer and Bluetooth-enabled Pocket PC.

To learn more, please visit:

<http://www.socketcom.com/product/BL4517-386.asp>



### Serial Family Enhanced for High Speed

The Socket Serial I/O product family is now being enhanced to run up to 921 kbps. The Serial I/O Card is already available with high-speed capability, and the Dual Serial I/O Card and Quad Serial I/O Card will follow suit in the near future. The new software features Hi-Speed COM Tools, which make it easy to identify COM ports or configure your computer to work at whatever baud rate you need. Learn more.

To learn more, please visit:

<http://www.socketcom.com/product/serial.asp>



### New Hi-Speed Digital Phone Card for Audiovox 1XRTT

Now you can take advantage of the newer, faster cellular network technologies with data speeds bursting up to 144 kbps. For faster downloading, quicker email access, and less time waiting, just use your favorite Pocket PC, your Audiovox 1XRTT mobile phone and Socket's Hi-Speed Digital Phone Card.

To learn more, please visit:

<http://www.socketcom.com/product/hispeed.asp>

## CONNECTIVITY PRODUCT NEWS & REVIEWS

(Cont'd from Page 1)

### Pocketnow and Mobile Computing Online Give Socket Bluetooth Connection Kit Top Ratings

Pocketnow and Mobile Computing Online agree that Socket's Bluetooth Connection Kit is the best Bluetooth solution for Pocket PCs. While Pocketnow declared it as "perhaps the most exciting product ever made," Mobile Computing Online rated the kit as "simply the best add-on available."

To read the review from Pocketnow, please visit:  
<http://reviews.pocketnow.com/content.cgi?db=reviews&id=272>

To read the review from Mobile Computing Online, please visit:  
<http://www.mobilecomputing.com/showarchives.cgi?237>

### Socket WLAN Wins Award from Game Over Online Magazine

Game Over Online Magazine honored Socket's Low Power Wireless LAN Card with the "Gamers Choice Award." The card earned perfect marks for performance and longevity to win distinction as best product in its category.

To Read the review, please visit:  
<http://www.game-over.net/reviews.php?page=features&id=72>.



## EMBEDDED, SCANNING & PARTNER NEWS

### Socket's Chip Sales Build a Broad Wireless Following

Socket's proprietary CompactFlash and PC Card interface chips are being evaluated or used by more than fifty companies and have been designed into more than twenty-five products. About ten percent of the Company's revenue in the quarter ended June 30, 2002 was from sale of interface chips. These numbers are expected to grow as customers bring new products to market.

To learn more, please visit: <http://www.socketcom.com/about/press/read.asp?ID=57>

### More Than 900 Companies Join Socket's Empowering Mobility Program

After only six months of operation, Socket's Empowering Mobility Program is quickly gaining momentum with more than 900 registered partner companies. The program brings together industry-leading companies to develop and promote products and services for the mobile workforce.

Members include Audiovox, BSQUARE, Casio, Ericsson, Hewlett-Packard Company, Kyocera, Microsoft, Motorola, NEC, Odyssey Software, Siemens, and Toshiba. Partners are busy working together on a diverse range of exciting opportunities, including software and hardware for consumer products, medical devices, field force automation, and logistics.

To learn more, please visit: <http://www.socketcom.com/emp/>

### Intermec and O'Neil Deploy Large-Scale Bluetooth Solution Featuring Socket Modules



Intermec and O'Neil delivered a new Bluetooth system to the field that incorporated Socket Bluetooth modules. The solution, which involved wirelessly connecting a printer and PDA via Bluetooth, was put in effect in June for a major home food delivery company.

### Symbol and Socket Collaborate on WLAN and Bar Code Scanning



Symbol Technologies and Socket Communications will work together to make both 802.11b wireless LAN cards for Pocket PCs and mobile bar code scanning products available to a wider range of customers.

To learn more, please visit:  
<http://www.socketcom.com/about/press/read.asp?ID=2>

### Socket Designs Cutting-Edge GPS Product for GeoVector

Socket's Embedded Systems Business Unit provided turnkey design services to help GeoVector Corporation create a powerful navigational device. Expert in the area of directional content with significant intellectual property under its belt, GeoVector developed the concept and early prototype for a pedestrian-based GPS system. GeoVector then approached Socket's engineering team, who made the concept a reality by leveraging today's state-of-the-art PDAs and technology. Socket offered GeoVector engineering design-win services, research and development, product investigation, electrical and mechanical designs, and software. The final design incorporates Socket's HIS-2 PC and CF Card application specific integrated circuit (ASIC chip).

Named "Welcome to New Zealand," the Pocket PC application combines both GPS and heading sensors to navigate pedestrians without the use of maps. Designed for tourists, the system is connected to a database, so pedestrians can learn about objects they point to. Additionally, the system is integrated with wireless communications so a person could make reservations at a hotel or restaurant the device is pointing to. "Welcome to New Zealand" is a featured case study on Microsoft's website.

To learn more, please visit: <http://www.microsoft.com/resources/casestudies/CaseStudy.asp?casestudyid=13399&PF=yes>

## SUCCESS STORIES

There is a new success stories section on Socket's website. Here, you'll learn about people who have benefited from using a Socket product, such as in the following examples.

<http://www.socketcom.com/support/storydetail.asp?ID=1>

### Hawaiian Astronomers Use Digital Phone Card to Track Satellites



Star Gaze Hawaii leads stargazing sessions at several resorts on the Big Island of Hawaii. Besides constellations, astronomers of Star Gaze Hawaii also point out and discuss satellites of interest such as the Hubble Space Telescope and the International Space Station.

Viewing satellites can be tricky. Astronomers need to access up-to-the-minute information

about a satellite's orbit to predict when and where to find it in the night sky. This information is available on the Internet, but how do astronomers download information while stargazing outside, far from an electric socket or telephone line?

This is where the Socket Digital Phone Card steps in. During a stargazing session, astronomers of Star Gaze Hawaii combine the Socket Digital Phone Card with a Motorola StarTAC phone and either a Compaq iPAQ Pocket PC or Dell Inspiron notebook computer to access the Internet.

"We're usually out on a lawn somewhere where there's no utilities. Everything has to be battery-operated, so the Digital Phone Card is per-

*"It's been a great advantage to get real-time data out in the field. Our competitors don't even try it, because they don't have the hardware."*

– Wayne Fukunaga

fect for what we do," said Wayne Fukunaga, chief astronomer and president of Star Gaze Hawaii. This ability to access the Internet from a remote location has even caught the attention of audience members. "They're quite impressed

that we can be online in the middle of a field," he said.

Besides tracking satellites, Star Gaze Hawaii also uses the Digital Phone Card to access weather information. The astronomers found that resort employees could also benefit from remote access to weather updates. By sharing up-to-the-minute weather information with resort workers, Star Gaze Hawaii has developed very positive relationships with the resorts it works in.

In the past, employees of Star Gaze Hawaii used a similar solution involving a card from another manufacturer, but the Socket Digital Phone Card turned out to be a better choice. Besides higher data speeds and greater ease-of-use, the Socket Digital Phone Card has also provided more dependable connections, Fukunaga said. "With the other one, we used to have driver problems all the time. The Socket Digital Phone Card has been much more reliable."

Ultimately, the ability to track satellites and include them in presentations has made Star Gaze Hawaii stand out among other local stargazing companies. "It's been a great advantage to be able to get real-time data out in the field," Fukunaga said. "Our competitors don't even try it because they don't have the hardware."

### London Professional Uses Bluetooth Card and GPS to Navigate in Real Time

As senior partner and founder of Context Information Services, a London-based IT research and consulting firm, Jeremy Davies needs to travel a lot throughout the UK. To make travel time more efficient, Davies has assembled a cutting-edge solution to help him steer his way through unfamiliar places. Through the use of the Socket Bluetooth Card and other mobile devices, Davies has combined GPS technology and wireless Internet access to create a real-time navigational system.

#### A Real-Life Application

Davies uses his Socket Bluetooth Card to connect his Ericsson T39 mobile phone and Compaq iPAQ Pocket PC to wirelessly access Streetmap ([streetmap.co.uk](http://streetmap.co.uk)), a website that lets you search for maps of Britain. Also attached to his Pocket PC is a Pharos GPS receiver.

"You fire up Streetmap, you get your GPRS connection, you plug in the GPS, and all of a sudden what you've got is a live, real-time GPS device in your hand," Davies said.

"As you move, it's going in and pulling off maps via the Internet, and at the same time it shows you where you are with a big arrow," Davies

said. Besides showing current position, Streetmap also displays travel directions and even the location of speed cameras.



"Now I can indulge in my dream application, mapping on the move. The really cool thing is you don't have to have maps preloaded on your PDA, or you don't have to upload them from a CD. They're live, real-time, always updated maps."

In the past, Davies used paper maps, which posed the problem of having to drive and read at the same time. Now, using the real-time navigational system, he can concentrate on the road and drive safely. Not having to worry about each upcoming turn, he drives less stressed.

Plus, if he ever gets lost, he finds it quicker and easier to gather his bearings than he would with a paper map.

Davies said that in Europe, people could especially benefit from using the Socket Bluetooth Card because of the availability of GPRS service. With GPRS, connection speeds for mobile Internet access are faster. Additionally, Davies said that because GPRS and GSM systems are compatible across Europe, the Socket Bluetooth Card is also an ideal solution for mobile Internet access throughout the continent.

"People always talk about killer applications, and the real applications for technology," Davies said. "This is a real-life, 'where am I, show me the way to go' type application which we all could use. It just blew my mind when I first did it, and anybody I show it to, it blows their minds too."

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– Jeremy Davies

## FINANCIAL NEWS & ANALYSIS

### Socket Reports Record Revenue of \$4.6 Million

Socket Communications, Inc. reported revenue for the second quarter ended June 30, 2002 of \$4.6 million, an increase of 62% compared to revenue of \$2.8 million for the same quarter a year ago, and an increase of 14% compared to revenue of \$4 million for the previous quarter.

To learn more, please visit:  
<http://www.socketcom.com/about/press/read.asp?ID=52>

### New Analyst Reports from Barrow Street Research and Buckman, Buckman, & Reid

Two investment research firms published new reports on Socket Communications in August.

For the Barrow Street Research report, visit:  
<http://www.socketcom.com/pdf/SCKT081502FinalReport.pdf>

For the Buckman, Buckman & Reid report, visit:  
<http://www.socketcom.com/pdf/SCKT081902FinalReport.pdf>

## Tips & Tricks

### How to Access High-Speed Cable or DSL from Your Pocket PC

Do you have a hi-speed cable or DSL connection and want to access it from your Pocket PC or other mobile computer? Now there are a variety of routers available on the market that let you do this. Routers allow multiple users to access a single broadband connection. If you have Socket's Low Power Ethernet Card or 10/100 Ethernet CF Card, you can connect your Pocket PC to your hi-speed cable or DSL connection with a switch router. If you have Socket's Low Power Wireless LAN Card, you can use a wireless router to connect to your hi-speed connection.

### How to Check the Speed of Your Internet Connection

Have you been wondering how fast your mobile computer is accessing information from the Internet? It's easy to find out by using a speed test available online from Bandwidth Place. The test reports measurements for communications, storage, and file downloads. You can even compare your speed with that of other mobile computers in your region.

[www.bandwidthplace.net](http://www.bandwidthplace.net)

## INDUSTRY NEWS

### U.S. Carriers Upgrade to Faster Networks

AT&T, Cingular, Sprint, Verizon and T-Mobile have begun laying the infrastructure for faster wireless networking services in the U.S. AT&T, Cingular, and T-Mobile (formerly Voicestream) are implementing GPRS technology (based on the GSM standard) which will offer data speeds of 40-115 kbps. Verizon and Sprint have been deploying CDMA2000 or 1XRTT networks (based on CDMA), which will run data at 50-60 kbps, bursting up to 144 kbps. Faster wireless networking is a boon to people who use and depend on wireless data, made possible by products like Socket's Bluetooth Connection Kit, Digital Phone Card, and Hi-Speed Digital Phone Card.

To learn more about mobile phone technologies and how they are expected to upgrade in the near future, read Socket's technology brief, "Mobile Phone Basics."

To read the paper, please visit: <http://www.socketcom.com/support/learn.asp>

### AT&T Debuts Bluetooth Phone for GPRS

As part of its nationwide rollout of GPRS networks, AT&T began offering the Sony Ericsson T68i Bluetooth phone. This is the first Bluetooth-enabled GPRS phone widely available in the U.S. and one of many phones compatible with the Socket Bluetooth Connection Kit.

### Enterprise Use of WLAN Doubles

Wireless LAN penetration in American businesses has doubled in the past 12 months, *Frontline Solutions* reports. About 1 million WLAN access points are currently operating in more than 700,000 businesses nationwide, including more than 11,000 large companies. This growth has come despite increasing awareness of WLAN security issues.

To read the article, please visit:  
<http://www.frontlinetoday.com/frontline/content/contentDetail.jsp?id=29770>

Socket's Low Power WLAN Card offers the lowest power consumption and smallest form factor for wireless LAN connectivity. Many WLAN users have concerns about security, and Socket is working to deliver the best safety features available. Socket's card currently supports WEP encryption up to 128 bits, and 802.1x support is planned for the near future.

## EVENT NEWS

### Frontline Solutions Expo Europe

October 8-10, 2002  
 NEC — Birmingham, UK  
 Booth #141  
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### Pocket PC Summit

October 21-24, 2002  
 Renaissance Hotel — Hollywood, CA  
 Booth #59