Skype for SIP now interoperable with Cisco Unified Communications 500 Series for Small Business

Small companies can improve communications, competitiveness by placing voice calls using Skype

LUXEMBOURG, September 23, 2009 — Skype today announced that the beta version of Skype for SIP has been certified as interoperable with the Cisco® Unified Communications 500 Series for Small Business. This will enable small and medium-sized businesses who manage their networking and communications needs with this affordable UC solution to communicate more efficiently by directing their outbound calls to mobiles and landlines via Skype, while also allowing them to receive inbound calls from Skype users.

"In today's tough economy, executives of smart small and medium-sized companies realize that effective communications with customers, partners and employees are a key to helping them grow their business," said Stefan Oberg, VP and General Manager of Skype for Business. "By certifying Skype for SIP as interoperable with the Cisco Unified Communications 500 Series, we are providing a single offering that will help many SMBs around the globe save money, save time and stay ahead of the competition."

Interoperability with Skype for SIP means that small businesses can take advantage of the cost savings provided by Skype's low-cost global calling rates when their employees call landlines and mobiles around the world. A company can also receive inbound voice calls from any of the more than 480 million registered Skype users around the world via a global click-to-call button on its Web site. These Skype calls are received in the Cisco Unified Communications 500 Series solution and can be handled or directed in the same way as any other inbound caller. In addition, if a company buys and associates online Skype numbers with their Cisco Unified Communications 500 Series solution, it can then receive inbound calls via Skype from business contacts and customers calling from landline and mobile phones.

"Cisco is committed to delivering easy-to-use technology to small businesses to help them run their business better and gain a competitive advantage," said Mark Monday, vice president and general manager, Small Business Solutions business unit, Cisco. "We are excited about Skype for SIP interoperability since it adds a very cost-effective choice to the many other options within the Cisco Unified Communications 500 Series."

The Cisco Unified Communications 500 Series platform is part of Cisco's Smart Business Communications System which continues to expand having just added a new set of IP phones with high definition audio, a unified threat

management device as well as support for third party application integration, including products from healthcare, automotive and insurance industries.

Certification testing of Skype for SIP with the Cisco Unified Communications 500 Series for Small Business was conducted by tekVizion LabsTM, an independent test facility in Richardson, Texas, which specializes in IP communications interoperability testing.

Cisco VARs will need to register for the Skype Service Partner Program and pass an online certification exam to qualify to configure the Cisco solution to support Skype for SIP, as well as to support those business customers who may already be using the Cisco Unified Communications 500 Series for Small Business and want to integrate Skype for SIP into their present communications solution.

For more information on Skype for SIP, please visit <u>www.skypeforsip.com</u>. VARs, system integrators and consultants who are interested in getting more information about the Skype Service Partner Program can register their interest to learn more and stay ahead of the competition at <u>skype.com/go/servicepartnerprogram</u>.

SIPfoundry sipXecs IP PBX now interoperable with Skype for SIP

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Companies using open source IP PBX system can now place voice calls using Skype

LUXEMBOURG, September 17, 2009 — Skype and SIPfoundry, (<u>http://www.sipfoundry.org</u>), a not-for-profit open source community, today announced that sipXecs, its open source enterprise IP PBX unified communications (UC) solution, has now been certified as interoperable with Skype for SIP. This will enable many organizations running a sipXecs IP PBX solution to save money by directing their outbound calls to mobiles and landlines via Skype, while also enabling them to receive inbound calls from Skype users.

"At a time where small and medium-sized businesses are dealing with tighter budgets, many of them are considering open source alternatives to traditional IP PBX systems," said Stefan Oberg, VP and General Manager of Skype for Business. "By certifying sipXecs as interoperable with Skype for SIP, we continue to demonstrate our commitment to open source and standards like SIP and SIPconnect. Furthermore, we are giving IT administrators the opportunity to

leverage a very cost-effective solution, combining the low upfront cost of an open source IP PBX with the low-cost global calling rates that Skype is known for."

Interoperability with Skype for SIP means that businesses which have deployed native SIP or SIP-enabled PBXes, like the sipXecs IP PBX solution, can take advantage of the cost savings provided by Skype's low-cost global calling rates when their employees call landlines and mobiles around the world. In addition, companies running a sipXecs IP PBX can be called directly by any of the more than 400 million registered Skype users who might click on the Skype button that has been placed on its corporate Web site(s). These Skype calls are then received through the existing PBX and can be handled or directed in the same way as any other inbound caller. Companies can also choose to purchase an online Skype number. This will enable them to receive calls via Skype from business contacts and customers calling from traditional fixed lines or mobile phones.

"Achieving interoperability with Skype for SIP means it is now easy for companies that deploy the sipXecs IP PBX solution to route their outbound calls via Skype," said Martin J. Steinmann, member of the board of directors at SIPfoundry. "The ability for the many companies around the globe that are already using a sipXecs IP PBX system to now get the many benefits which Skype for SIP delivers further enhances the ease-of-use and low total cost of ownership of our open source solution."

Skype for SIP is also interoperable with Nortel's Software Communication System (SCS) (<u>http://www.nortel.com/scs</u>), a commercial version of the SIPfoundry sipXecs IP PBX unified communications solution that is sold with full commercial support through Nortel, as well as Dell, IBM, and other distribution partners worldwide.

For more information on Skype for SIP, please visit www.skypeforsip.com.

About SIPfoundry

SIPfoundry, a not-for-profit organization, was founded in 2004 to promote and advance SIP-related open source projects. The major effort carried out by SIPfoundry is the development of the open source sipXecs IP PBX. Through SIPfoundry, users, developers, and distributors of SIP-based products can utilize open-source materials to accelerate the growth and adoption of SIP. For more information on SIPfoundry, please visit <u>http://www.sipfoundry.org</u>.

About Skype

Skype is software that enables the world's conversations. Millions of individuals and businesses use Skype to make free video and voice calls, send instant messages and share files with other Skype users. Everyday, people everywhere also use Skype to make low-cost calls to landlines and mobiles. Download Skype to your computer or mobile phone at skype.com.

Skype is an eBay company (NASDAQ: EBAY).

Access to a broadband Internet connection is required. Skype is not a replacement for traditional telephone service and cannot be used for emergency calling. Skype for SIP is meant to complement existing traditional telephone services used with a corporate PBX, not as a stand-alone solution. Skype for SIP users need to ensure all calls to emergency services are terminated through traditional telephone services.

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