

## Press Release

### ***Agent Technology and Autonomic Computing: Whitestein Technologies Announces New Agent Platform***

***Zurich, 1 October 2004. In the context of the "Agent Technology Conference" held on 1 October 2004 in Zurich, organized by AgentLink, the EU-funded "European Network of Excellence for Agent Based Computing," Whitestein Technologies, leading European provider of agent-based technologies, products, and services, presented its new "Living Systems® Technology Suite." As one of the most comprehensive agent platforms currently available, the product offers a Java-based Run-time Suite (for J2SE and J2EE environments), an Eclipse-based Development Suite, and a Development Methodology based on the RUP (Rational Unified Process) with an associated agent-oriented modeling language based on UML 2.0.***

Although agent technology is relatively nascent, there is an increasing number of public reports concerning its practical deployment in various application domains. As of today, the range of successful agent deployments include solutions for the military, logistics and traffic control domains, applications for fields such as telecommunications, financial services, public administration and health care, as well as the well publicized applications for space missions.

While today numerous agent platforms are available, by far the majority of them result from thematically focused research projects, and thus do not, or only partially, meet the requirements of the day-to-day practice of IT departments (robustness, scalability, performance, integration with existing technologies and solutions, etc.). Many are equipped with only rudimentary tools for application development, deployment, and administration. In addition, despite some promising approaches, there is a lack of a well-defined, comprehensive agent-oriented development methodology, including a corresponding modeling language and tools.

Whitestein Technologies, with headquarters in Zug (Switzerland), in order to enable the development and maintenance of its own vertical, agent-based solutions, has developed a robust, scalable agent platform that can, thanks to adherence with current industry standards, be easily integrated into existing environments. The *Living Systems® Technology Suite* is a comprehensive "agent middleware," which will be available under license to innovative software vendors, system integrators, and IT departments of major companies, from the start of next year. In addition to the "Run-time Suite," which targets both J2SE and J2EE environments and includes the necessary administration tools, the *Living Systems® Technology Suite* also comprises an Eclipse-based "Development Suite," which is equipped with the tools necessary for fast and efficient application development. Of particular interest will be the included "Modeler," a tool enabling visual requirements analysis, tailored to the modeling and design of complex Multi Agent Systems and which makes use of the "Agent Modeling Language" (AML). AML is integrated into the agent-oriented "Application Development Methodology" (ADM), which guides the analysis, development, and deployment process. Whitestein Technologies has created AML as extension to UML 2.0, while ADM is based on the Rational Unified Process (RUP).

To manage the needs of different users, the *Living Systems® Technology Suite* will be available in three Editions:

- *Personal Edition (PE)*: for prototyping, technology exploration, and the development of small personal applications with basic run-time needs (run-time basis: J2SE).
- *Business Edition (BE)*: for developing and operating highly demanding business applications, with industry-level run-time features, such as resource control and monitoring, or platform federation (run-time basis: J2SE)
- *Enterprise Edition (EE)*: for developing and operating mission-critical business applications, with a requirement for enterprise level functionality and run-time features, such as fail-safety and clustering (run-time basis: J2EE).

### ***About Whitestein Technologies***

Whitestein Information Technology Group AG (Whitestein Technologies), located in Zug (Switzerland), has become, since its inception in 1999, a leading European provider of agent-based technologies, products, and solutions. Whitestein Technologies' products offering includes innovative agent-based solutions for the telecom, logistics, and financial services domains as well as the development and run-time environments to design, implement, and operate demanding agent-based applications and solutions. In order to profit of the latest know-how of agent-oriented research, Whitestein Technologies actively contributes to European research projects, and is also a member of the relevant standardization bodies.

Whitestein Technologies' customers include leading companies of the aforementioned domains and market segments. Whitestein Technologies currently has a team of 70+ highly qualified people at four locations: a competence center for telecom and financial services in Zurich (Switzerland), a competence center for logistics in Donaueschingen (Germany), an off-shore development center in Bratislava (Slovak Republic), and a research center in Sophia Antipolis (France) that is currently being opened.

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