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Airgo Networks Signs Four Customers – All to Ship First Ever True MIMO™ Wi-Fi Products

OEMs and ODMs Tap Airgo's Breakthrough Wireless Chips to Equal Performance of Wired Networks, Expand Wireless Market Potential with New Applications and Opportunities

PALO ALTO, Calif. -- June 14, 2004 – Airgo Networks, a developer of innovative wireless chipset and software solutions, today announced that four customers, SOHOfware, Planex, Askey and Taiyo Yuden, are now manufacturing and distributing the world's first MIMO Wi-Fi products, all based on Airgo's True MIMO™ technology. Possessing performance equivalent to wired connections, wireless networking equipment powered by True MIMO™ is bringing about a new level of user experience, changing the economics of wireless deployments and providing the performance needed for the next wave of consumer and business wireless applications.

Airgo is the only company to conceive, develop and deliver MIMO; the scientific term for a new paradigm in wireless digital signal processing that transmits multiple data streams using a single radio channel to multiply throughput rates while simultaneously extending range.

The Wi-Fi semiconductor industry has determined that MIMO will become the key enabling technology for the next generation WLAN standard; 802.11n. Many OEM customers are planning to produce MIMO products by late 2004 and early 2005. Airgo's True MIMO™ products have defined the new product category now known simply as "pre-n", short for "pre-standard 802.11n MIMO technology". This product category ushers in a completely new era of wireless networking performance by seamlessly connecting the most demanding applications such as HDTV and VoIP at an effective range more than twice that of standard Wi-Fi equipment.

"Now we can offer customers the highest performing Wi-Fi products with zero compromises and enhanced performance with backward compatibility to existing standards," said Ashok Kumar, vice president of sales and marketing for SOHOfware. "By offering pre-n products with True MIMO™, we gain early access to this new and attractive Wi-Fi market segment."

"We have built upon the rich enterprise networking features in Airgo's access point reference design to offer a best of class end-to-end WLAN solution for business," said Mr. Kumar. "We believe the combination of world's best RF performance, industry leading networking capability, and our VAR friendly channel economics makes our new MIMO based solution extremely attractive to both VARs targeting the small and medium business market, as well as VARs selling to enterprise IT decision makers."

Demand for True MIMO™ compatible chipsets is increasing among Wi-Fi OEM customers who seek to differentiate in a competitive market by offering wireless networking products that enable new applications, higher performance, increased robustness and full backward compatibility. True MIMO™ Wi-Fi provides the same throughput as 100Mbps Ethernet and can stream to multiple high-definition TVs in a wireless home entertainment system. True MIMO™ simultaneously supports connection to devices enabled with the new MIMO modes as well as older generation of 802.11a, b and g devices. True MIMO™ provides all of these benefits while avoiding the Wi-Fi incompatibility, radio interference, spectrum inefficiency and international regulatory problems associated with channel bonding.

"The first MIMO-capable WLAN chipsets are now being shipped for revenue," said Joseph Byrne, semiconductor analyst with Gartner, Inc. "Progress commercializing MIMO technology is leading the industry to adopt the technology for 802.11n, the next-generation WLAN physical-layer specification."

Mr. Katsuaki Kubota, CEO of Planex Communications Inc. commented that the deciding factors for partnering with Airgo were based on the unique wireless networking performance superiority that True MIMO™ possesses, and the fully featured business AP reference design software. "We see a huge demand from our customers for features such as single AP full-floor coverage, better network throughput in congested offices, strong security for APs and clients, comprehensive network management, guest user access and VLAN support," said Mr. Kubota.

"This is a defining moment for us. The Airgo team has been working for many years to create the MIMO technology and products required to enable the digital multimedia home and the Ethernet-free office," said Greg Raleigh, president and CEO of Airgo Networks. "Now our first OEM and ODM customers are shipping best of class products and the Wi-Fi industry has converged on our concept of MIMO OFDM as the preferred technology for the next generation of 802.11 standards. This is creating an improved Wi-Fi experience for consumers with greatly expanded applications and market size."

Airgo Product Availability

Airgo announced general availability of the AGN 100 chipset product family in fall of 2003. In winter of 2004, Airgo released ODM manufacturing reference designs for Business Access Points, Broadband Consumer Gateways, PC and laptop cardbus modules, Laptop mini-PCI modules and consumer multimedia modules. Products utilizing the Airgo True MIMO™ technology are now available from SOHware and Planex, with other retail OEM partners soon to be announced.

About Airgo Networks, Inc.

Airgo Networks develops breakthrough technology and Wireless LAN (WLAN) products that enhance existing applications and enable new applications by substantially improving the quality and convenience of the WLAN user experience. Airgo's chipset, software and reference design solutions provide secure, easy-to-use, standards-compliant WLAN capabilities that work in both the 2.4GHz and 5 GHz bands. Airgo's products are based on the IEEE 802.11 standards (commonly known as Wi-Fi). The breakthrough wireless technology provides cost-effective performance for the most bandwidth-intensive applications, eliminating the need for wires at home, at work, and in public places. Founded in November 2000, the company is headquartered in Palo Alto, California, USA; an additional development center is located in Breukelen, The Netherlands. Information about Airgo Networks technology and solutions is available at www.airgonetworks.com.

About SOHware

SOHware, Inc., a wireless LAN pioneer, provides secure wired and wireless networking solutions through VAR Exclusive model to small and medium businesses (SMB). SOHware solutions offer innovative, business-class features that combine high performance and affordability demanded by the growing SMB market. SOHware® and AeroGuard™ are trademarks or registered trademarks of SOHware, Inc. For more information please visit www.sohware.com.

About Planex

Planex Communications Inc. (PCI) is a manufacturer and distributor of connectivity devices for IP infrastructure for use both in the home and the office. The company makes easy-to-use, but high performance devices and tools that allow customers to connect their networks and computer equipment quickly, reliably, and flexibly. For more information please visit www.planex.net.

About Askey

Askey was established in Taipei, Taiwan in 1989. The company is now engaged in the design, marketing, manufacturing, distribution and after sales services of broadband and wireless products for ODM/OEM customers worldwide. With fast business growth and continuous progress in new product development, Askey has become the world's leading manufacturer of cable modems, ADSL modems, wireless LAN products, analog modems and combo cards for computers, telecommunications, networking and other communication industries.

About Taiyo Yuden

Now in its 54th year, Tokyo-based Taiyo Yuden co., LTD. is a worldwide manufacturer of surface-mount and leaded passive components, Bluetooth modules, power electronics modules, power supplies, and recordable digital media. With approximately 50% of the worldwide market in high-frequency multi-layer chip inductors used in cellular phone applications, the company reports annual sales of nearly US\$1.4B. Worldwide, TAIYO YUDEN employs more than fifteen thousand people, and the company's North American affiliate, TAIYO YUDEN (U.S.A.), INC., operates sales and engineering offices in: Chicago, IL; Raleigh, NC; Irving, TX; San Jose, CA; and San Diego County.