



MiriforceTM
Broadcast Technologies

Press Release **Miriforce: RedRat announcement**

8 April 2008

Miriforce uses RedRat technology

Miriforce Ltd, the developer of MiriMON, the system for real-time monitoring of live Digital TV networks, team up with RedRat Ltd. – the infrared specialists

8 April 2008 - Miriforce Ltd recently added the new product, MiriATE, to its expanding product range. MiriATE is a modular, scalable solution for the automated testing of set-top boxes (STBs).

Geoff Aitken, Business Development Manager at Miriforce, says, “MiriATE is the world’s most powerful automated test environment for STBs. We are confident that 75% of testing, which is currently carried out manually, can be automated by MiriATE. This level of automation can halve the cost of testing. No one else in the marketplace has the same offering.”

A key component for the testing carried out by MiriATE is the hardware that is required in order for MiriATE to control the STBs.

RedRat Ltd, a market leader in the area of automated control of audio/visual equipment, is supplying the ethernet controlled irNetBox-Pro for networked control of STBs by the MiriATE software.

Chris Dodge, Technical Director of RedRat, says, “MiriATE is the most comprehensive STB testing system we have seen, providing the kind of STB test, analysis and reporting capabilities that we know many companies have been asking for. We are very pleased that Miriforce have chosen to use the irNetBox-Pro as part of MiriATE, providing many of our customers with the option of moving to a MiriATE based testing environment while utilising their current investment in RedRat hardware.”

MiriATE can be used in a number of environments - from the network operator to the STB manufacturer. As well as being ideally suited to acceptance and

regression testing it is also an invaluable development tool. As manufacturers no longer own the entire hardware and software stack, assigning faults to the correct component vendors is a real challenge in a modern device integration project. MiriATE provides reliable, quantitative evidence to allow correct fault assignment and to assist with accurate fault diagnosis.

“One key component of STB testing is controlling the hardware under test via infrared signals. RedRat’s irNetBox is established in the industry as the preferred choice of infrared control hardware for automated stimulus of STBs.” says Geoff Aitken.

The standard deployment of MiriATE is a 16 STB solution, but the system can be cost effectively scaled in increments of 16 STBs to build solutions that can accommodate 384 boxes or more.

For additional information on Mirifice, please contact info@mirifice.com:

Mirifice Ltd are headquartered in Bath, UK. Formed in 2004 they provide key software development, project management and consultancy staff to the broadcast industry. The company product range includes the award-winning MiriMON system for real-time monitoring of live Digital TV network deployments. Customers include BSkyB, BBC, Virgin Media, Top-Up TV, Comstar Direct, Pace MicroTechnology, Gateway Broadcast Services, Tandberg TV and Thomson.

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RedRat Ltd. specialise in interfacing computers with audio/visual equipment, primarily via infrared remote control. In addition to their core hardware products of the USB RedRat3 and networked irNetBox, they also provide various software utilities, applications and an SDK allowing customers an easy route to start working with automated infrared control. Formed near Cambridge, UK in 2002, RedRat have established themselves as the primary provider of infrared control hardware to the consumer electronics and broadcast industries, supplying to more than 250 companies worldwide.

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