TECNOMEN CORPORATION STOCK EXCHANGE RELEASE July 17, 2001 1.30 P.M.

TECNOMEN TO SUPPLY UNIFIED MESSAGING SYSTEM TO SOUTH AFRICAN CELL C THROUGH SIEMENS

Tecnomen Corporation has been chosen by Siemens Information and Communications Group (I and C Group) to supply its eZONER messaging system to the South African mobile operator Cell C as part of a network infrastructure delivery. The system will cater for one million subscribers and will be launched commercially before the end of this year. The value of the transaction for Tecnomen is approximately EUR 4 million. South Africa has a developed mobile network, with two mobile operators serving more than 9 million subscribers. Cell C. which was awarded its license last month, will challenge them with the roll-out of a third cellular network before Christmas. It hopes to secure 15 - 20% of the market by 2007. South Africa has a population of more than 40 million. This is Tecnomen's first installation in Africa. "Our success in this case, against other major players in the messaging market, proves our commitment to partnership and to local service, support and close relationships, as well as our product know-how", says Vesa Helkkula, CEO of Tecnomen Corporation.

Siemens won the turnkey supply contract for Cell C worth \$221 million. The site acquisition programme is already underway. Pete da Silva, the chief operating officer of Siemens Telecommunications, said: "Siemens Integration Solutions and Services (ISS) and Cell C aim to work towards a future where consumers rely on their mobile phones to support their everyday life. The Tecnomen eZONER offering is well in line with this goal as it will be expanded and scaled to cater for constantly changing requirements and increased usage." "The Tecnomen solution which advocates open standards and technology offers a powerful and long-term architecture that will generate services revenue and provide Cell C's subscribers with enhanced messaging services. The close working relationship between Siemens and Tecnomen is crucial for our mutual and Cell C's success", says da Silva.

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Distribution: Helsinki Exchanges, key media