

Our reference Press Contact Date 2008-03-03

Marie Saltin Symsoft AB +46 8 503 86 636 marie.saltin@symsoft.com

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### For immediate release

# WATANIYA TELECOM LAUNCHES COLLECT CALL BASED ON THE NOBILL® PLATFORM FROM SYMSOFT

The innovative and forward-thinking Wataniya Telecom is the first operator in Kuwait to launch the collect call service, which allows the costs of a mobile call to be taken over by the called party pending his consent. The service is easily accessed and works for both prepaid and postpaid subscriptions and on virtually any handset.

Symsoft's Nobill Collect Call platform offers prepaid subscribers a peace of mind that they can reverse the charges even if the prepaid account is depleted. The service appeals to people with limited assets, for example children calling their parents. In other markets, the service has also proved very popular among business users who, instead of using their private mobile subscription, places collect calls that will be charged on the company phone bill. These capabilities will enable Wataniya to improve customer satisfaction and capture incremental revenues that may have been lost otherwise.

"We are delighted to be able to introduce the Collect Call service for the first time in Kuwait and to offer our customers an easy and seamless way to communicate with their families and friends, even in the moments when they do not have enough funds to place a call. We found in Symsoft a reliable partner, that responded very well and in a cost-effective manner to our comprehensive technical requirements and to our aggressive time schedule" says Scott Gegenheimer, GM&CEO of Wataniya Telecom.

"The co-operation with Wataniya is an important achievement and strengthens Symsoft's position in the Gulf and the Middle East region. In all markets where Collect Call has been introduced, the usage has increased much faster than anticipated, generating substantial added revenues for the operator. The excellent collaboration between our teams has paved the way for a great and long term success and helps Wataniya to tap into new revenues meanwhile enhancing the service offering to its customers" says Bogdan Sacuiu, General Manager, Symsoft Middle East and Africa.

FAX: +46 8 566 166 01



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Behind Symsoft's success lies a strategy to build all service layer applications on a common, generic and IP-based platform, the Nobill Platform. The Nobill brand covers multiple solutions within charging and value added services that are optimal for future growth in the evolving next generation networks. Each Nobill product offers not only a point solution, but is also a building block that seamlessly integrates with other Nobill products. Symsoft's solutions help boost revenue and cut costs on an increasingly competitive mobile market.

#### **About Wataniya Telecom**

Wataniya Telecom was commercially launched in 1999 as the first privately owned operator in Kuwait. In March 2007, Qatar Telecom (Qtel) acquired 51% of Wataniya Telecom shares from Kuwait Projects Company Holding KSC (KIPCO) group. Wataniya is a customer driven company that aims to provide product and service excellence that is leading to a real customer value. The company has been a driving force in increasing the mobile market penetration in Kuwait (over 93%). Wataniya Telecom has grown rapidly through acquisitions and enjoys a remarkable expansion in MENA & ASIA. Driving operations in Kuwait, Maldives, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Tunisia Algeria and later in 2007 in Palestine. For more information about Wataniya, please visit: www.wataniya.com

#### **About Qatar Telecom**

(Qtel) is the exclusive telecommunications provider in Qatar. Its principal activities include local and international fixed telephone, mobile, Internet, data and cable television services. Qtel is committed to growing its presence in the Middle East and internationally and with Wataniya Telecom and its operations in the MENA region, Qtel is now active in 10 countries including Qatar, Oman, Singapore and Indonesia. In November 2006, Qtel acquired a strategic 38% equity stake with AT&T in NavLink, a leading provider of Managed Data Services to businesses in the Middle East. Qtel is a winner of the 2006 GCC Economic Award, and is listed on the Doha Securities Market and on other stock exchanges in the GCC. For more information about Wataniya Telecom visit www.wataniyatelecom.com. For more information about Qtel, visit www.qtel.com.qa

## **About Symsoft**

Symsoft develops leading solutions for the service layer network, such as real-time charging, messaging and IP services. Open architecture combined with innovative technology yields short lead times. Founded in 1989 and based in Stockholm, Sweden, Symsoft has operational systems in more than 30 countries. For more information about Symsoft, visit <a href="https://www.symsoft.com">www.symsoft.com</a>