Raritan Computer to Acquire Peppercon AG

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-- Expands OEM Channel with New Embedded Remote Management Offerings; Broadens Product Portfolio and Increases Presence in Europe –

SOMERSET, NJ, USA and Zwickau, Germany (April 7, 2004) – Raritan Computer, Inc. -- a leading supplier of KVM (keyboard, video, mouse) switch and remote IT infrastructure management solutions -- today announced that it has acquired Peppercon AG, a German company that develops and markets embedded remote management systems and subsystems for accessing and managing a wide range of devices.

Peppercon will operate as a separate business unit focused on OEM and embedded remote management systems. Peppercon's advanced digital KVM-over-IP technology -- which complements Raritan's -- is available in multiple form factors, including a module that is only the size of a credit card.

Peppercon's KVM switches are also complementary to Raritan's product lines, and will extend Raritan's comprehensive set of IP-based KVM solutions. Peppercon will   continue to sell its existing products, along with the rest of Raritan's expanded product line.

"Peppercon's talent and innovative, advanced technologies and products will help strengthen our company and accelerate our embedded technologies business," said Ching-I Hsu, CEO of Raritan Computer. "We will be in a strong position to serve an expanded set of OEM customers, who will benefit from the combined companies' advanced technology, including embedded KVM technology; support for IPMI and other industry standards; and expanded offerings for the blade server industry and remote device management.

"We see this acquisition as a win-win for both Peppercon's and Raritan's customers, who will have access not only to the products that they are currently buying, but also to a range of complementary offers, supported by the same channel and people that they have grown to trust and with whom they have developed excellent relationships."

This acquisition bolsters Raritan's leadership position in remote management both inside and outside the data center. In addition, Raritan's enterprise customers will benefit from the additional functionality that will be incorporated into Raritan's existing IT infrastructure management products, as well as from the increased technical and support resources in Europe.

"Our merger with Raritan opens new horizons for Peppercon's offerings," said Christian Pätz, CEO of Peppercon. "We now have the opportunity to increase sales of our leading embedded remote management technology through the worldwide presence of Raritan Computer, especially outside of Europe. This merger is good news for our customers, partners and employees."

According to German CC-Bank, a major European financial services institution with three million customers and 40,000 business partners, Peppercon's KVM switch solutions have been invaluable in managing the bank's data center equipment. "Peppercon's solutions were instrumental in helping CC-Bank mange its IT equipment as we integrated new data centers into our enterprise as a result of a merger," said

Wolfgang Brefried, CC-Bank's administrator of networks. "We look forward to working with Raritan Computer because the union of two industry leaders will mean even better and innovative solutions for managing our data centers."

Peppercon's solutions also are used by Deutsche Postbank AG, Germany's largest retail bank. "Peppercon's solutions provide fast and easy access to our equipment, so that our IT infrastructure operates smoothly and provides high availability for our mission-critical applications," said Postbank's Hartmut Schlegel.

London-based 3i Group plc -- Peppercon's lead investor and a world leader in venture capital and private equity – also said the combination of Peppercon and Raritan is positive news.

"In October 2000, 3i invested in a highly motivated team of entrepreneurs that wanted to start a company for developing technology and products for remotely managing IT equipment," said Sören Schuster, Investment Manager at 3i. "After Peppercon's explosive growth of the past 3 1/2 years, the time is right to accelerate this success by integrating Peppercon AG into the global organization of Raritan Computer. Peppercon's success shows that it is possible to build a highly profitable company, even in a difficult worldwide economy, if the right business partners work together."

About Peppercon AG
Peppercon -- founded in 2000 in Germany's emerging high-tech "Saxony Valley" – develops, manufactures and markets advanced, hardware-based, remote-management products based on digital KVM-over-IP technology. Peppercon sells its products worldwide through OEMs and an international network of distributors. Its products include embedded remote management boards, KVM IP extenders, as well as KVM switch systems integrated with KVM-over-IP technology.

About Raritan Computer
Raritan Computer Inc. is a leading supplier of IT infrastructure management solutions for secure access, monitoring, and management of servers and other IT devices in data centers and remote offices. Raritan's products are used to control and manage millions of servers at more than 50,000 data centers, computer test labs, and other sites around the world. From the small business to the enterprise, Raritan's complete line of compatible and scalable digital and analog KVM, serial console, and remote connectivity products offers IT professionals the most reliable, flexible, and secure solutions to manage IT equipment, while improving operational productivity. Founded in 1985, Raritan has experienced 19 consecutive years of profitable growth and technical innovation. More information on the company is available at www.raritan.com.

About KVM Switches
KVM switches -- initially used to manage multiple desktop PCs with one keyboard, mouse, and monitor (similar to A/B printer switches) -- today are enabling IT workers, from anywhere, to monitor thousands of data center servers and to pinpoint and handle problems, even reboot servers, as if they were actually at the server rack. Raritan Computer introduced the industry's first enterprise-class, Cat5-based KVM switch for the enterprise more than three years ago, enabling IT administrators to control racks of servers and other equipment up to distances of 1,000 feet. Raritan then added anytime, anywhere access with the addition of Raritan's IP connectivity to KVM switches.

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