

Mobile Banking leaps forward as Meridea announces 5 new licenses and is named one of Europe's top 100 Hi-Tech Private Companies

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MOBILE BANKING LEAPS FORWARD AS 5 NEW MOBILE BANKING LICENSES ANNOUNCED BY MERIDEA, WHO IS NAMED AS ONE OF EUROPE'S TOP 100 PRIVATE TECH COMPANIES IN 2004

On the same day that Meridea Financial Software Ltd. has been selected as one of the best-performing and innovative high-tech private companies of Europe and Israel in the fourth annual Tornado100 list; Meridea demonstrated the fast growth of its mobile banking solutions with the announcement of five new licenses for banks in Europe and Asia.

Meridea was singled out by Tornado for its new generation solutions which are helping banks and financial institutions become more customer focused and in particular for its mobile banking software which is making banking on the mobile device a reality for many consumers. Meridea was founded in 2001 and is owned by Nokia, Accenture, financial group Sampo, venture capital companies 3i and Nordic Venture Partners. It specialises in the provision of mobile customer services to banks and financial institutions across Europe, Asia and North America.

"The companies Tornado Insider selected are Europe's technology stars," said Niels Valkering, Tornado Insider's Head of Research. "Combining internal analysis with advice from industry specialists, we identified the elite of Europe's high-tech entrepreneurial vanguard, appreciating excellence both in innovative, commercial and financial performance. Watch these companies in 2005, as the technology they are commercializing today will change tomorrow's trends."

"We are honoured to be recognized by Tornado Insider as one of the Top 100 start-ups in Europe," said Jukka Riivari, President and CEO of Meridea. "This award acknowledges the impact our solutions are having in the marketplace. It underlines that our mobile banking software is the most advanced and the one most likely to change the shape of mobile banking across the world. The fast growth of this sector is evidenced by our announcement today, of five new licenses for European and Asian banks. We will reveal the names after the solutions have been deployed. However, being identified a 2004 Tornado100 Winner is a great compliment which will help us generate more visibility internationally."

The 2004 Tornado100 list can be found on the website of Tornado Insider (www.tornado-insider.com), and includes a profile of Meridea and the other 99 most promising and innovative emerging companies in the European IT and biotech sectors.

The selection of the 2004 Tornado100 Winners from thousands of candidates was judged according to the following criteria:

- . Delivering an innovation that shows the promise to set new standards
- . Creating a major new audience
- . Supplying a key piece of the ICT infrastructure
- . Commanding a significant customer base

- . Having the potential to become a global brand or standard
- . Influencing a major market
- . Receiving a significant amount of funding
- . Having a strong valuation for a lucrative exit
- . Having a management with previous successful exit experience

The list was announced during the Tornado Insider/World Financial Symposiums T100 Leadership Forum on January 26th, 2005 in London.

- Ends -

About Meridea - www.meridea.com

Meridea Financial Software Ltd. is a mobile customer services provider. It helps organisations exploit mobility and enhance the quality of their customer relationships. Meridea is owned by Nokia, Accenture, Sampo, 3i and Nordic Venture Partners. Headquartered in Helsinki, Meridea operates in Europe, Asia and North America.

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