

Integration Consortium Annual Summit 2005 - Attracts Global Players and Raises the Bar on Benchmarking Best Practices

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- Unique, live SOA Integration Solution Showcase sizzles

London & New York, 1st June, 2005 - The Integration Consortium (IC) announced today the successful Annual IC Global Integration Summit held in Banff, Alberta, Canada last week has significantly raised the benchmark for every business involved in the delivery of integration projects across industry and across the globe with one of the most innovative and well attended events for some years.

The IC is a global forum, created to identify and promote best practices across the integration industry working with end users, solution providers, academics and standards bodies. Each year, the IC Annual Summit brings together the most proactive and well recognised industry leaders to share their experiences and help determine the best practices of the future. For the first time this year, the participants have also been involved in a truly unique event which included the live SOA Integration Solution Showcase, more than \$3m software licenses were given away and the opportunity to network with the who's who of the industry.

Delegates included representatives of business and government sectors from the US, Brazil, Canada, England, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Switzerland and the Netherlands. There was a particularly illustrious speaker line up including Dave Watt, AltaGas Income Trust; John Schmidt, Bank of America; Kevin Scully, DrKW; Carla Taylor and Manish Varma, Johnson & Johnson; Art Boykiw, Petro-Canada; Dennis Attinger, Royal Philips Electronics and Ann Harten, Sirva.

In terms of the solution providers, never before has an event succeeded in enticing a group of well respected companies to rise to the challenge by participating in a Showcase where they were required to demonstrate their skills and technology and deliver in real-time a supply chain solution using an SOA-based business integration solution in just over 24 hours. The IC Integration Solution Provider Awards for Excellence™ were awarded to all the participants that successfully delivered a working solution. Participating companies in the Showcase have raised the bar in the integration industry by delivering a real-time solution. Award for Excellence™ designations have been awarded to: Fiorano Software, 5by5 Software, Grand Central Communications, iWay Software, Online Business Systems, PolarLake, Software AG, Sonic Software, webMethods and end user Abebooks.com. The ultimate IC Integration Solution Provider Award for Excellence – Premier Solution Provider of 2005™ voted on by the Summit attendees was awarded to webMethods.

The challenges encountered by all of those who participated included; time constraints, narrow band width and outages on site, and third party site complications, to name a few. The Showcase required creativity, collaboration, blood, sweat and tears by all of the participants to build a solution, quite a feat to achieve a result from scratch in 27 hours! And, all under the scrutiny of integration solution buyers – it was not without its moments of pressure.

According to the Chairman of the Summit, David Linthicum, "We sincerely thank all those who participated in the 2005 Summit and particularly all those who travelled to join us. This has been our

most aggressive agenda yet, the speakers were very open with their presentations sharing their experiences, good and bad in the spirit of developing best practices and the solution providers, well, we recognise that the lengths to which they were prepared to go in order to succeed were more than impressive, they exceeded all of our expectations.”

Michael Kuhbock, Founder and Co-Chairman of the IC adds “It has always been our belief that if we were to succeed in being taken seriously as a Consortium, we had to tackle the challenges of building and delivering integration solutions by being relentless in our pursuit of best practices through the eyes of the end user. Because of this, integration solution providers who participated in the SOA Showcase were placed under intense pressure and took on tremendous risk. After all, building a real time, successful business integration solution in a public forum takes a lot of courage and vision. It was a make or break event, those who were involved stand head and shoulders above any other vendor who may be touting an integration solution in the market today. They have been acknowledged by their peers and the end user community as serious players with technology that really does work.”

The IC will be jointly hosting a number of post-Summit road shows throughout North America starting early June and further details will be published shortly.

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