

BELL MICROPRODUCTS EUROPE APPOINTS DAVID SPATE AS GENERAL MANAGER FOR EUROPEAN SALES

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Bell Microproducts Europe is pleased to announce the appointment of David Spate as general manager for European sales. The appointment underlines Bell Microproducts Europe's commitment to developing its European business which will involve growing its existing operations and portfolio and establishing new sales initiatives across territories where it does not currently operate.

David joins Bell Microproducts Europe with a wealth of expertise gained in his previous position as vice president for international sales at OnStream. Previously to this, David spent 11 years at IBM where, for some of his employment, he held the position of European HDD sales director responsible for IBM's hard drive channel business in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. During his time at IBM, David was particularly instrumental in the expansion of IBM's business with pan-European distributors.

Ian French, president of Bell Microproducts Europe, comments on the appointment: "Through networks we have already developed in Europe we have established a strong presence in the storage marketplace. The focus now is to ensure that Bell Micro Europe becomes Europe's definitive storage distributor. The Group's continuing ambitious expansion plans, coupled with David's expertise, I am confident Bell will be well equipped to seek out and seize a broader range of Enterprise storage opportunities within both existing and new highly lucrative markets."

"I am delighted with the opportunity to drive such a leading and dynamic company as Bell Micro Europe," comments David. "My main objective is to establish Bell Micro as the distributor of choice in Europe for storage solutions. This will involve developing and expanding the current operations we have in six European countries. At present there isn't a pan-European distributor which is truly focused on storage and able to bring to its customers a comprehensive range of storage products from floppy drives, through hard disk drives and optical devices, to NAS and SAN solutions. Therefore, it is my aim to broaden Bell Micro's reseller network and product portfolio, establishing it as Europe's number one one-stop-shop for all storage requirements."

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Editor's Notes:

About Bell Microproducts

Bell Microproducts is an international, value-added provider of a wide range of high-technology products, solutions, and services to the industrial and commercial markets. The company's offering includes semiconductors, computer platforms, peripherals, and storage products of various types including desktop, high-end computer and storage subsystems, fibre channel connectivity products, RAID, NAS and SAN storage systems, back-up products, storage management software, and extensive support, integration and installation services. Bell Microproducts is an industry-recognized specialist in storage products and is one of the world's largest storage-centric value-added distributors.

The company's products are available at any level of integration, from components to subsystem assemblies and fully-integrated, tested and certified system solutions. The company adds value with a broad range of services including testing, software loading, kitting, mass storage system integration, and computer system integration. Trained and certified technical personnel complete each of these processes at Bell Microproducts' ISO 9002 facilities. Bell Microproducts markets and distributes more than 125 brand name product lines, as well as its own BellStor and Rorke Data storage and Trademark® computer brands, to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), contract electronic manufacturing services (EMS) customers, value-added resellers (VARs) and system integrators in the Americas and Europe.

More information can be found in the company's SEC filings, or by visiting the Bell Microproducts Web site at <http://www.bellmicro.com>

Safe Harbor Statement

This release may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements, which reflect the Company's current views of future events and financial performance, involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results or facts to differ materially from such statements for a variety of reasons including, but not limited to: the ability to successfully integrate the operations of recent acquisitions, industry conditions, changes in product supply, pricing, and customer demand, competition, other vagaries in the computer and electronic components markets, changes in relationships with key suppliers, foreign currency fluctuations and the other risks described from time to time in the Company's reports to the Securities and Exchange Commission (including the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K).

Investors should take such risks into account when making investment decisions. Shareholders and other readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date on which they are made. The company undertakes no obligation to update publicly or revise any forward-looking statements.