

Double Duty

By Mark Long -- *e-inSITE*, 4/10/2002

HelloSoft is demonstrating its "HelloVoice" voice-over-packet software running on the Microsoft Windows CE 3.0 real-time operating system (RTOS) at the Spring 2002 Voice on the Net (VON) conference in Seattle, Washington this week.

Conducted on a Compaq iPaq PocketPC, the demonstration shows off how handheld device manufacturers and application integrators can incorporate voice communication capabilities in their products to extend the functionality of these devices for real-time voice communication over IP networks. The technology is expected to allow handheld organizers to also function as Web-enabled phones.

The set-up at Spring 2002 VON demonstrates HelloSoft's implementation of the G.729A/B vocoder on a StrongARM processor, the heart of the iPaq. The PDA is fitted with a standard 802.11b modem and enables voice communications with another similarly fitted iPaq. In addition, the iPaq communicates with a Pentium-based laptop running HelloSoft's G.729A/B vocoder running on Microsoft Windows 98, Windows 2000 or Windows NT operating system.

According to the company, HelloVoice on the Windows CE 3.0 operating system provides the unique capability of running all the required DSP software on RISC-based StrongARM, MIPS, ARM, and ARC CPUs.

"HelloSoft has established a unique combination of relationships with both Microsoft and with Intel, said vice president Ashok Setty in a prepared statement. "With the help of an excellent team of implementation engineers, HelloSoft has implemented VoIP over Windows CE 3.0 on StrongARM. This is a compelling demonstration of HelloSoft's capabilities to add 'soft voice' on the existing vast array of handhelds without adding separate DSP hardware."

Available for licensing, HelloVoice on the Windows CE 3.0 is destined for deployment in ITU-T compatible G.7xx vocoders and G.165/G.168/G.168 2000 echo cancellers as well as signal classification, caller ID, G.167 coustic echo canceller, DTMF, VAD/CNG, jitter Buffer, CPT, SIP, RTP, RTCP, and phone book directory applications.