



Intel, Vodafone and Acer announce major initiative to launch mobile technology standards in Italy

Milan, December 12, 2003 – **Intel Corporation Italia, Vodafone Italia and Acer Italy** present a major initiative designed to develop and market ‘**mobile**’ solutions for their professional customers, exploiting the synergies between **Intel’s Centrino Mobile Technology**, **Acer** notebooks using the technology and **Vodafone’s connectivity** options.

This unique and exclusive partnership has given rise to a solution combining Acer’s **notebooks** and **Tablet PCs** based on **Intel Centrino Mobile Technology** – including an Intel® Pentium® M processor, the related chipset family and integrated 802.11 wireless LAN capability – and **Vodafone’s Mobile Connect Card**, to offer professionals on the move easy-to-use, rapid and secure access to their e-mail accounts, Internet and their company’s intranet.

Vodafone and **Intel** provide “always on” wireless connectivity, exploiting the Vodafone Connect Card for connection to Vodafone’s **GPRS network** or Intel Centrino Technology for a **Wi-Fi connection** where hot spots exist.

The solution is already available on all **Acer** notebooks based on Intel Centrino Mobile Technology: Acer TravelMate 290, Acer Travelmate 370, Acer TravelMate 660, Acer TravelMate 800, Acer TravelMate C110, Acer TravelMate C300 (Acer’s two convertible Tablet PCs) and the Acer Aspire 2000 (with its exclusive wide screen).

“**Intel** has long advocated convergence between IT and communications, and this commitment has recently led to the presentation of technology platforms for computers and mobile phones, specially developed to meet the growing demand to be able to access the Internet, process data and vice versa. We are pleased to announce this partnership in Italy, which puts **Vodafone** and **Intel** at the forefront in a particularly demanding market in terms of mobility,” comments *Dario Bucci, CEO of Intel Corporation Italia*.

“**Acer**, the Italian **global PC market leader** and **number two** in the **EMEA** region in the **mobile computing** segment (source: Gartner 3Q 2003),” states *Gianpiero Morbello, Country Manager for Acer Italy*, “couldn’t pass up the chance to take part in such an initiative that fits perfectly with our “Customer-Centric” strategy. Therefore, the offer of an opportunity to get a close-up view of the potential of Wi-Fi technology, an area in which **Acer** is involved in numerous other projects,” continues *Gianpiero Morbello*, “allows us to provide a practical example of our wireless product and solution offerings, and better focus partnership agreements in order to provide users with concrete, effective solutions”.

About Intel Corporation

Intel, the world's largest chip maker, is also a leading manufacturer of computer, networking and communications products. The project is part of a wider partnership between Intel Corporation Italia and Vodafone Italia whose strategies, in their respective sectors, combine to promote the ongoing convergence of IT and communications. Additional information about Intel is available at www.intel.it/pressroom.

About Vodafone Italia

Vodafone Italia is part of the Vodafone Group, the world's largest mobile community, with equity interests in 26 countries and 5 continents, and serving over 119 million customers. As of March 2003 Vodafone Italia had 19,412,000 customers, 8 operational call centres spread around the country and over 2,000 retail outlets. The GSM network covers over 97% of Italy, representing 99.4% of the population, as does the GPRS network completed at the end of 2000. Vodafone Italia currently has international roaming agreements with 325 operators in 187 states. www.vodafone.it

About Acer Group

A top-ten worldwide PC vendor, Acer designs and markets easy, dependable IT solutions that empower people to reach their goals and enhance their lives. Acer's product offering includes desktop and mobile PCs, servers and storage, displays, peripherals, and e-business solutions for business, government, education, and home users. In 2002, Acer ranked among the top five brands for PCs and notebooks in Western Europe; enjoyed top-five status for notebooks in Asia Pacific (excluding Japan); and scored as a top-ten PC vendor in the U.S. Established in 1976, the pan Acer Group employs 39,000 people supporting dealers and distributors in over 100 countries. Revenues reached US\$12.9 billion in 2002. Please visit www.acer.com.