NCR

NCR Enhances International Image-Item Processing Solutions With Advanced Recognition Capabilities From A2iA

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DAYTON, Ohio, Dec 14, 2001 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ -- NCR Corporation (NYSE: NCR) today announced the signing of a global software license agreement with A2iA. Under this agreement, NCR will integrate A2iA's CheckReader recognition software with their image-item processing solutions for the international market.

Initially focusing on solutions sold in Europe and Asia, CheckReader will enhance NCR's current offerings by providing the ability to read and cross-validate a check's courtesy and legal amounts for more accurate processing.

Based on more than ten years of research into artificial intelligence, character and word recognition, the A2iA CheckReader uses proprietary character and cursive handwriting recognition systems to read information from business and personal checks. A2iA CheckReader allows users to quickly input data from checks including the name and address of the payer, payee name and date of the check, and will verify the presence of a signature.

Integrating the A2iA CheckReader software into NCR's international solutions, such as proof-of-deposit and remittance processing, will significantly improve read rates and accuracy for processing checks and other banking documents. These improvements will further automate the clearing process and improve productivity for item processing operations, which translates to lower processing costs.

"As part of our commitment to providing a total solution offering, we evaluated the market to find best-in-class recognition software to enhance our current offerings, " said Jose Pincetic, vice president of NCR Payment Solutions. "Combining the two companies' expertise and technologies will allow us to quickly build and deliver best-in-class applications for clients in the imaging and payment processing industry, in particular, the check clearing/processing sectors."

Jean-Louis Fages, CEO of A2iA adds, "A2iA is pleased to have teamed up with NCR to enhance their current offerings. With four languages supported- French, English, Portuguese and Spanish-in 13 country versions, A2iA CheckReader technology will take part in NCR's international development of payment solutions."

NCR is a leader in providing payment solutions that address the image- and item-processing needs for banks and other financial institutions. These solutions enable item-based transactions, both check and remittance, to be digitally captured, processed and stored in an image-based transaction archive for retrieval and delivery via the Internet, a network and CD-ROM. NCR provides a single-source, image-item processing system to financial institutions, enabling them to reduce operating costs, improve customer services and generate revenue through value-added product offerings to their customers.

About A2iA Corporation

Founded in 1991, A2iA Corp. is the world leader in cursive, constrained and unconstrained handwriting and machine-print recognition software. A2iA Corp. develops and markets high-performance, cost-effective software that allows users to perform high volume data-entry from machine printed type, cursive or handwritten paper documents. A2iA currently has two software technologies, the A2iA CheckReader and the A2iA FieldReader. The company licenses its technology worldwide through resellers, developers, systems integrators (SI) and Integrated Software Vendors (ISV). A2iA has its headquarters in New York and Paris. The company's website can be found at www.a2ia.com .

About NCR Corporation

NCR Corporation (NYSE: NCR) is a leader in providing Relationship Technology(TM) solutions to customers worldwide. NCR's Relationship Technology solutions include the Teradata(R) database and analytical applications such as customer relationship management (CRM) and demand chain management, store automation systems and automated teller machines (ATMs). The company's business solutions are built on the foundation of its long- established industry knowledge and consulting expertise, value-adding software, global customer support services, a complete line of consumable and media products, and leading edge hardware technology. NCR employs 32,900 in more than 100 countries, and is a component stock of the Standard & Poor's 500 Index. More information about NCR and its solutions may be found at www.ncr.com .

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