



Arkipelago Announces Latest Version of ROME™ Software for Network Planning, Design and Inventory.

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Arkipelago, a software development company and provider of network solutions for the global communications market, announced today the release date of their newest version of **ROME™** Software. **ROME™**, a Microsoft technology based software product for modern communications networks, will be demonstrated in the Microsoft booth at Telecom '99 in Geneva.

About ROME™

ROME™ (Relational Object Management Environment) is a PC-based software application for the planning, design, and inventory management of telecommunications networks and facilities. In an intuitive drag-and-drop interface, ROME™ combines the graphic capabilities of a CAD (Computer Aided Design) engine with non-proprietary database functionality, using any industry standard relational database system.

Version 3.0 of ROME™, which will be shipping in October of 1999, will offer a great deal more functionality than the current version of ROME™. ROME™ V 3.0 will feature specific functionality for modeling networks both physically and logically, capacity planning as well as circuit design and allocation. The big advancement for ROME™ V 3.0 however, is in the underlying technology used to enhance the software. ROME™ V 3.0 is built entirely using the latest programming technology by Microsoft including DCOM (Distributed Component Object Model).

Currently there are various carriers waiting to deploy this latest version of ROME™, which has been chosen because of its promise to satisfy all of the complicated routing requirements of modern telecommunications networks, as they relate to equipment and capacity. As a DCOM based solution, ROME™ V 3.0 addresses the carrier's requirement for quick deployment to their client server environment, but also offers complete portability that enables it to run on a laptop in the field.

"ROME™ V 3.0 has the ability to tie in the ongoing changes taking place in the field with the planning and management activities at the Central Offices. It is what today's Carriers need to keep their inventory current.

There has been a trend towards Microsoft Windows® and DCOM based solutions for mission critical OSS (Operation Support Systems) due to the need for flexible, customizable and scalable solutions in the changing landscape of the telecommunications industry. ROME™ V 3.0 offers critical network planning, design and inventory functionality, based on technology that enables a plug and play integration approach to the OSS.", says Todd Nowensky, Arkipelago's Sales and Alliance Manager.

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Arkipelago as a member of the Microsoft OSS/ BSS Working Group

Arkipelago is an active member in Microsoft's initiative for the telecommunications industry, focused on the Operations Support Systems and Business Support Systems (OSS/BSS) used by existing and new service providers as they deploy network services to their customers.

The Microsoft OSS Framework facilitates the development of products, technologies and services by third parties, which encompass telecommunications company processes such as operations, administration, maintenance and service provisioning. It provides a common architectural framework that ISVs (Independent Software Vendors) and network operators can use to apply Microsoft technologies to core telecommunications operations and business processes.

The OSS Framework encourages carrier use of commercial technology to build Operations Support Systems that are adaptable, efficient, well integrated, accessible and easily programmed for today's telecommunications markets.

Arkipelago is proud to be a member of the OSS/BSS Working Group and looks forward to continued interoperability between ISV products, in the development of complete solutions for the telecommunications industry.

"As the telecommunications industry continues to embrace Microsoft technology for mission critical applications, products like ROME™ software will play an increasingly important role in the OSS", says Peyton Smith, Director of Network Solutions Group OEM, Microsoft Corporation.

ROME™ V 3.0 Product Launch at Telecom '99 in Geneva

Arkipelago will be showcasing and offering interactive demonstrations of ROME™ V3.0 at Telecom '99 in Geneva, at the Microsoft booth on Friday, October 15, 1999 between 2:00pm and 6:00pm.

For more information on demonstrations or to arrange a private company presentation, please contact Arkipelago.

for further information, please contact:

sales@arkipelago.com

or, visit Arkipelago's website:

www.arkipelago.com



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