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Axis extends its USB print server offering – introduces three new solutions

Axis Communications today announced three new print servers that address the fast growing market for print servers with USB capabilities. The new products, each designed to target a different segment of the market, forms a powerful addition to Axis' already broad market offering. Already the leading independent supplier of network print solutions, Axis will substantially increase its market reach with the new products.

There is a strong trend among printer manufacturers to add a USB port to new printer models, often replacing the serial interface (RS232) and the Centronics parallel interface (IEEE 1284). The driving reasons behind this technology change are mainly the following: to allow plug-and-play (PnP), to increase communication speed, to decrease physical size, production cost of ports, to minimize the support cases caused by the parallel interface and to reduce electricity consumption. With a growing market demand for such printers and several obvious user benefits, it is therefore natural for Axis to extend its print server offering to include print servers with USB ports.

The most powerful of the three new products is the AXIS 5550 Network Print Server. This is the world's first print server to offer both USB and parallel ports for printing in mixed networking environments. It provides superior print management tools and multi-language interfaces. Printing is made easy and users can print from almost any application, as well as control all printers in an enterprise network from a single workstation. The other new print server model, AXIS 5500, holds the same functionality and benefits as AXIS 5550, but without the parallel port.

The third new product is the AXIS OfficeBasic USB, a cost-effective solution that is ideal for small office and local networks. Combining unique multi-language support and automatic installation, the AXIS OfficeBasic USB is the world's most user-orientated network print server for small offices. Superior print management tools also offer automatic way to discover devices on the network, even in mixed PC/Mac networks.

All three products are available through Axis' distribution channels from May 2003. For more in-depth product information and photos, please visit www.axis.com

About Axis
Axis increases the value of network solutions. The company is an innovative market leader in network video and print servers. Axis' products and solutions are focused on applications such as security surveillance, remote monitoring and document management. The products are based on in-house developed chip technology, which is also sold to third parties.

Axis was founded in 1984 and is listed on the Stockholmsborsen (XSSE:AXIS). Axis operates globally with offices in 14 countries and in cooperation with distributors, system integrators and OEM partners in 70 countries. Markets outside Sweden account for more than 95 % of sales. Information about Axis can be found at www.axis.com

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