

Arcontech and Cicada form Strategic Alliance

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Arcontech, a leading provider of end-user market data technology and real-time middleware has announced a strategic marketing and technology alliance formed with Cicada, a global provider of data validation and cleansing services.

The agreement means that the companies will work together to tender for major business where their products are complementary and their combined strengths make a compelling offering. The companies have already begun work on a number of contract bids.

The alliance brings together the strength and reputation of Cicada's data quality management technologies with Arcontech's acknowledged expertise and products for real-time data contributions, distribution and desktop data integration.

Cicada's technology is built on its well established Composer product, which provides a central platform for data acquisition, validation, cleansing and integration. Based on this the company has developed a range of award-winning business solutions across the financial sector.

Arcontech will supply products from its CityVision range. In particular, its newly released Excel integration components for real-time data submission and distribution, its StarNet global market data internetworking system and its server components for Reuters RMDS integration are proving to be of considerable interest.

Andrew Miller, chief executive of Arcontech says: "We've been looking for a credible partner in this space for a while, and Cicada is ideal – we have minimal competitive overlap, yet

operate in exactly the same market space. I'm delighted to be working with them."

"The combined strengths of Arcontech's product range and Cicada's technology and services present exciting advantages and choices for those organisations seeking solutions in the real-time space," said James Redfern, Manager, Strategic Alliances & Partnerships at Cicada. "We're looking forward to working with Arcontech in a successful alliance and providing our mutual clients with innovative solutions, suited to their specific needs."

A further advantage of the alliance is that prospective clients can expect lower risk and faster implementation as deliveries will be based on proven product, each supplier providing components from their 'best of breed' suites.