



News release

AASTRA UNVEILS NEW GENERATION OF DECT HANDSETS

New products offer cost effective mobility with superior quality of service

19th May 2009 – Aastra, a market leader for business DECT (Digital Enhanced Cordless Telecommunications) handsets¹, has launched a new range of stylish DECT handsets tailored for the needs of businesses of all sizes. According to research published by Frost & Sullivan the emergence of SIP DECT products and advanced feature DECT handsets is driving the growth of this market, that could reach \$318 million by 2014², and offers opportunities for growth in untapped markets.

Designed with the professional needs in mind, the new 600d line of DECT phones helps businesses keep their workforce more responsive and productive while on the move. With its high quality and confidential calls through voice optimisation, DECT offers a cost-effective mobility solution for companies that need to supply mobile phones to staff primarily mobile within the company premises (making it especially suitable for vertical markets such as education, healthcare or retail).

The new 600d DECT phones benefit from a wealth of features similar to mobile phone making the adoption of these handsets very intuitive: large display combined with navigation key and the user-friendly menu for easy navigation, extensive directories with multiple entries, multiple user profiles ring tone assignment, user profile hotkeys. Other features specifically respond to professional requirements: an ambient noise filter and self adjusting ring tone level for loud environments, drop resilience and ergonomical design. Businesses will benefit from automatic firmware updates that can reduce maintenance costs and remove the need for IT staff to manually update handsets with the latest firmware. The handsets can also be deployed in an IP environment as the new 600d phones are all SIP DECT.

There are three handsets within the new range. The Aastra 610d DECT entry level handset provides all the key features appreciated by professionals including a large monochrome back-lit display and hands free use. With a dustproof case the phone is ideal for those working in environments such as warehouses, industry or workshops.

The Aastra 620d and 630d DECT handsets feature an illuminated two inch graphic colour displays and eight additional programmable keys to make line control and navigation easier. The phones support Bluetooth[®] headsets and have extended battery life (up to 24h talk time with the Power Battery). With its robust, ruggedized cases, the Aastra 630d DECT handset also boasts an emergency key and a 'man down' feature that can alert other users when no movement is registered, making the handsets particularly useful for workers in industrial environments or for security staff. The handset's water jet proof design makes it useful for the healthcare industry too as the phone can be easily and safely wiped with disinfectant.

"As a leading provider of business communication solutions, Aastra offers a complete range of mobility: from fixed-mobile convergence, to WLAN handsets, IP DECT and DECT handsets. With ensured security, superior speech quality and cost-effectiveness, DECT remains a proven and best selling mobility technology for in-house use especially in the very competitive European markets. DECT technology has also been gaining increased interest in other regions around the world," said Henning Gmerek, Product Manager, responsible for this new range of handsets.

The new handsets, which are designed for global use, come with a deep integration for the range of Aastra's PBX systems (such as the Aastra 5000, 800, IntelliGate 150 & 300, NeXspan, OpenCom 1000 and 100). The Aastra 610d and 620d DECT handsets are now shipping. Advanced orders for the Aastra 630d can be placed now with an expected ship date of June 2009.

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¹ Aastra was ranked as #3 for 2007 sales of business DECT handsets in the EMEA region. Source: EMEA end-user device market and forecasts, Canalys.

² World Enterprise DECT Phone Markets, October 2008, Frost & Sullivan