

THUS IS LOCAL AUTHORITY ON MOBILE SOLUTIONS

THUS to provide mobile solution for Scottish local authority

1 December 2008 – Whether in an urban setting or in rural communities, such as those that comprise Dumfries and Galloway, organisations are seeking to equip their employees with a range of mobile communication devices and 3G connectivity to increase their efficiency and effectiveness. It was with this aim in mind that the Scottish local authority turned to THUS, a Cable&Wireless business, to deploy a mobile solution for more than 2000 staff across the council. The solution, which includes Blackberrys, mobile voice and data and 3G connectivity, will enable more effective communication and improve customer responsiveness.

The range of mobile voice, broadband data devices and connectivity will improve efficiency of workers in remote locations, allowing two-way communication between mobile devices and core corporate networks and applications resulting in reductions in travel time and costs, meaning more time is spent on core activities. Not only will this provide cost savings, tangibly in terms of lower bills, but it will also allow the council to deploy resources more effectively in the delivery of the full range of services to the public.

Dumfries & Galloway in the South West of Scotland is one of the country's most rural council areas with both the terrain, and the disparate and remote location of towns and villages, presenting a challenge operationally to the council staff and to any telecoms provider supporting them. This is reflected in the communication infrastructure required by the Council and THUS's mobile solution addresses these needs.

Derek Shaw, Head of IT at Dumfries & Galloway Council said, "The relationship we have with THUS has evolved and grown due to effective and responsive account management throughout the deployment of the Pathfinder South network. Over and above the highly competitive pricing and the quality of the connectivity and devices deployed, this mobile solution from THUS delivers a robust platform to meet the needs of an effective flexible and remote workforce. THUS listened to what we wanted and is providing a 21st century communication solution which will benefit our workforce and, most importantly, one that will improve the quality of services we deliver to the people of Dumfries & Galloway".

Press Release

Jesper Lauridsen, Managing Director at THUS, a Cable&Wireless business, said: "Increasingly, workers and employers are seeing the benefits of remote working. For a council covering rural locations, remote working technology enables a level of service that is equivalent to that expected in less remote locations while at the same time improving efficiency and productivity of staff. THUS continues to demonstrate that it offers clients a quality of service and a commitment to genuinely working with them on a personal level that delivers added value. We look forward to further developing our relationship with Dumfries & Galloway Council."

Workforce mobilisation solutions from THUS offer customers a one-stop shop for their fixed and mobile networks, applications, hardware, support and installation. The combined product portfolio allows customers to take an integrated approach to mobile job dispatch and service, mobile messaging and vehicle tracking. The flexibility offered through anywhere, anytime connectivity to the corporate network and systems, is something that is on the wish list of an increasing number of employees. The mobile workforce solution from THUS will deliver what staff want, but also what employers need in terms of cost savings, improved productivity and organisational efficiencies.

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Notes to Editors

About THUS

THUS, a Cable&Wireless business, is a UK-focused business telecommunications company with a strong belief in its people and the services it provides to customers. We have a world-class next-generation network (NGN), enabling us to deliver innovative and effective solutions to organisations in the fast changing communications environment. Our early implementation of MPLS IP VPN technology has put us at the forefront of convergent solutions since the beginning, giving us the expertise that our customers need today and in the future.

Under our Demon brand, we are also able to offer a full suite of advanced business communication services to small and medium-sized enterprises, ranging from broadband and MPLS to High Speed Internet and VoIP.

For further information visit <http://www.thus.net>, <http://www.my-cw-portal.com> and <http://www.demon.net>.