

## **Socket Releases Industry's First RFID Development Kits with CompactFlash RFID Readers for Pocket PCs**

*Developer Kits Accelerate Time-to-Market, Aid in Learning About RFID, and Complement Socket's Existing Bar Code Scanner Product Line*

**Newark, CA– 7/21/2004** — Socket Communications, Inc. (NASDAQ: [SCKT](#)), the Mobile Connection™ Company, announced the availability of SocketReader™ Development Kits for its Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) product line as part of an ongoing strategy to help value added resellers (VARs), systems integrators (SIs), and Auto ID software developers implement RFID technology into their mobile solutions using Pocket PCs. Consistent with the previously announced schedule, Socket's existing Auto ID developer community will now be able to begin development and pilot deployment of applications that support reading of and writing to ISO15693 and ISO14443 industry standard tags and smart labels.

Two versions of Socket's Development Kits are available. The first is a single-function CompactFlash RFID reader plug-in card priced at \$1,995, and the second is a multi-function CompactFlash RFID reader plus a laser bar code scanner for \$2,495. The software element of the development kit is based on the same programming standards used by the well-established SocketScan™ SDK that supports Socket's family of bar code scanning products. Socket's SDK is designed to accelerate the time-to-market, enhance or shorten the learning curve for developers, or enable existing Socket developers to educate themselves about the exciting new possibilities for RFID solutions. Included in the Development Kit is a selection of RFID tags based on the Tag-It, ICode, PicoTag, LRIS12 and 'my-d' 13.56MHz tag protocols.

“The availability of affordable plug-in CompactFlash RFID readers for Pocket PCs allows companies to begin supporting this exciting technology while maintaining the flexibility to adapt to new application and user requirements as implementation progresses” said Kevin Mills, president and CEO of Socket.

Consistent with Socket's core expertise, SocketReader™ products are based on Socket's Mobility Friendly™ CompactFlash card peripherals, and supplements Socket's existing line of laser and imager-based bar code scanner products. Future RFID products may include an SDIO card version as well as a similar family of products supporting the evolving 900MHz EPC-Global standard and related tag protocols. Socket has historically developed products that conform to established communication and interoperability standards and it will continue to follow this practice as it strengthens its RFID product line.

Socket has posted an RFID technology brief/position statement on its website at [www.socketcom.com/support/learn.asp](http://www.socketcom.com/support/learn.asp) which provides additional information. More information on RFID technology is also available by visiting the RFID Journal website at: [www.rfidjournal.com](http://www.rfidjournal.com). Single-function development kits will be shipped within 30 days of receipt of order. Developers who require further information or wish to order should complete and submit the Developer Application at [www.socketcom.com/product/rfidqualform.asp](http://www.socketcom.com/product/rfidqualform.asp).

## **About Socket Communications**

Socket Communications, Inc., the Mobile Connection™ Company, provides the broadest range of connectivity and data collection products for mobile computers, including Windows Mobile-based Pocket PCs, Windows CE devices, Palm PDAs and Smartphones, as well as Tablet PCs and notebooks. Socket's Mobility Friendly™ products are feature-rich while promoting ease of use and lead the market with the smallest footprint and the most Battery Friendly® power consumption in their class. Socket's Embedded Systems Group provides hardware developers with solutions using mobilityIC™ interface chips and KwikBlue™ modules with embedded Bluetooth® Wireless Technology. Socket is headquartered in Newark, California and can be reached at 510-744-2700 or [www.socketcom.com](http://www.socketcom.com).

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