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**Socket Develops Plug-in I/O Card with On-board Support for SanDisk's
Removable MultiMediaCard Memory**

Will Enable Range of Dual-Function Scenarios for Users of Windows CE-Based Palm-size PCs

LAS VEGAS, NV, November 15, 1999 — Socket Communications Inc. (OTC: Bulletin Board SCKT and SCKTW; Pacific Stock Exchange SOK), the leading supplier of CompactFlash CF+ I/O cards, and SanDisk Corporation (NASDAQ:SNDK), the world's largest supplier of flash data storage products, today announced a cooperative arrangement to bring to market Socket's patent-pending technology for combining I/O connectivity plus removable memory onto plug-in cards designed to fit in the expansion slots of Windows CE operating system-based PC Companions as well as other mobile computers and intelligent appliances. Socket's memory-plus-I/O technology could save PDA users from having to choose between using an expansion slot to add memory or to attach an I/O device.

At the Comdex trade show today, Socket demonstrated their new technology to select partners by adding a SanDisk MultiMediaCard memory module to a CompactFlash CF+ I/O card and using the dual-function device in the industry-standard CompactFlash expansion slot of a PDA powered by the Microsoft Windows CE operating system. The I/O port on the prototype card was then connected to an external bar code scanner and at the same time the PDA played music stored on the SanDisk MultiMediaCard card.

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Cards incorporating Socket's technology could be used for a variety of applications that combine memory storage and I/O connectivity. For example, a dual-function LAN card could allow a user to load a music library onto the MultiMediaCard via an on-board Ethernet connection and then listen to the music while traveling. A dual-function serial communications card could allow a user to read a detailed street map stored on the MultiMediaCard while receiving location data from an externally connected GPS receiver. The same card could be used to attach a bar code scanner to a Palm-size PC and store the scanned data on the removable, non-volatile MultiMediaCard. Because Socket's memory-plus-I/O technology can be implemented on a standard-size plug-in card, products that use the technology will work with existing mobile computing platforms ranging from PDAs to notebooks and will require no physical modifications to be made to the host computer. Socket expects commercial availability of products based on the proven technology to be released in the second half of 2000.

The fully-functional plug-in card that Socket demonstrated at Comdex has three operating modes. It can be used to attach an external peripheral to a Windows CE-based computer, to add SanDisk MultiMediaCard memory, or to do both simultaneously. SanDisk recently announced that the top capacity of SanDisk's MultiMediaCard has been increased to 64 MB.

"Microsoft chose industry standards like CompactFlash in Windows CE to create a platform for innovation for developers that ultimately benefits users of all platforms, including PCs," said Rogers Weed, director of marketing for the Productivity Appliances Division at Microsoft Corp. "By building on the strength of two industry-standard technologies — CompactFlash CF+ I/O card with a MultiMediaCard memory — Socket has created a breakthrough solution that promises to benefit a broad range of mobile users."

"Socket has come up with an innovative way to eliminate the slot contention between memory and I/O cards," said Leon Malmed, senior vice president for marketing and sales at SanDisk. "Socket's new technology will accelerate the adoption of the CompactFlash CF+ standard on a variety of portable information appliances and at the same time expand the market for MultiMediaCard memory."

"For the mobile computer market, this is in," said Mike Gifford, vice president of business development for Socket Communications. "This means that PDAs with single-slot expansion are becoming the norm, and this forces users to choose between adding I/O or memory. With our patent-

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pending dual-function plug-in technology, users can add memory and still take advantage of our I/O products, so the user wins, the memory manufacturer wins, and Socket wins.”

SanDisk designs, develops and markets flash memory storage products that are used in a wide variety of electronic systems. SanDisk's products are used in a number of rapidly growing consumer electronics applications, such as digital cameras, personal digital assistants, MP3 portable music players, digital video recorders and smart phones, as well as in industrial communications applications, such as communications routers and switches, wireless communications systems, point-of-sale terminals, transportation systems and medical instrumentation. SanDisk's products include removable CompactFlash cards, FlashDisk cards, MultiMediaCard products, embedded FlashDrives and FlashChipSet products.

Socket Communications, Inc. develops and sells connection products for Windows CE-based computers and other devices. Socket's products include the *Battery Friendly*[™] family of plug-in cards for enhancing Windows CE-based computers by adding networking, bar code scanning and printing, data communication, and wireless Internet connectivity. Socket's products utilize the company's low power chip technology, making them ideal for battery-operated mobile computers. Information about Socket's complete range of products is available on the company's web site at www.socketcom.com.

Socket is demonstrating its current line of products from November 15-19 at the Fall '99 Comdex trade show in the Microsoft Partner Pavilion, Booth #61, located at South Hall 1 of the Las Vegas Convention Center.