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Global Market Leader Wurth Deploys Award-Winning ERP System Powered by Versant

Versant Enables Agility for Real-time Transactions and Global Deployment

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FREMONT, Calif., Dec. 9 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Versant Corporation (Nasdaq: VSNT), an industry leader in data management and integration for the real-time enterprise, today announced the deployment of Versant's data management technology, VDS, at three Wurth subsidiaries as part of the WURTPHOENIX ERP system. Wurth Group is a leading supplier of fasteners and assembly materials worldwide, with over 40,000 employees, including over 23,000 salespeople in 290 sales companies spanning 80 countries. Wurth, which leads its industry in integrated order, service, and logistics systems, evaluated several commercial enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems. These systems did not adequately support Wurth's technology needs, so Wurth developed WURTPHOENIX ERP using object-oriented technology. Wurth utilized Versant technology in WURTPHOENIX ERP which enables a powerful object-oriented design that provides rapid and low cost customization, including choice of speaking languages and business practices. Additional technical elements of the Wurth solution include Java, model driven architecture (MDA) and CORBA. Versant's data management technology has allowed WURTPHOENIX ERP to make highly efficient use of hardware and deliver deployment flexibility.

Recently, WURTPHOENIX ERP was recognized as a finalist in the category "Best Integration Using an MDA Approach" at the Object Management Group (OMG) Object Application Awards 2003. Order processing, purchasing and logistics are now deployed at Wurth in Italy, France, and the Netherlands. Wurth plans additional deployments in the Wurth Group and to offer WURTPHOENIX ERP to companies outside the Wurth Group, including delivery with an application service provider (ASP) business model.

"By using object-oriented data management technology, the resulting costs from design to deployment are a fraction of what they would have been with relational data management technology," said Hubert Kofler, CEO at Wurth Phoenix, the systems development arm of the Wurth Group.

Helmut Gschnell, Managing Director Wurth Italy and Member of the Management Board of the Wurth Group, said, "WURTPHOENIX ERP was designed to support massive scalability, high availability, rapid customization, and deployment flexibility. With Wurth's business needs, and geographical and organizational diversity, this flexibility is an absolute requirement."

Nick Ordon, president and chief executive officer of Versant said, "We are delighted with Wurth's adoption of Versant technology. WURTPHOENIX ERP shows how Versant's technology can deliver performance, agility, scalability, and cost savings for large-scale real-time applications that simply do not work well with conventional relational data management technology."

About Wurth Phoenix

Wurth Phoenix is partner for optimizing IT processes. More than 200 specialists -- IT optimizers -- worldwide are building new or optimizing existing IT infrastructure. Customer-focused process optimization, systems integration, and IT outsourcing are the competencies. Wurth Phoenix serves customers with advanced software, such as merchandise management systems that are tailored perfectly to the customer's particular requirements. The strategic locations in Europe, Asia, and America give Wurth Phoenix an international presence and offers efficient services that knows no borders or boundaries. For more information about Wurth Phoenix, please visit <http://www.wuerth-phoenix.com> or call our location in New Jersey 201-825-2710.

About Versant Corporation

Versant Corporation is an industry leader in data management and integration software for the real-time enterprise. Using Versant's solutions, customers cut hardware costs, speed and simplify development, significantly reduce administration costs and deliver products with a huge competitive edge. Versant's solutions are deployed in a wide array of industries including telecommunications, financial services, transportation, manufacturing, and defense. With over 5,000 installations, Versant has been a highly reliable partner for over 14 years for Global 2000 companies such as British Airways, US Government, Financial Times, Tyco International, IBM, and MCI. Versant has signed a definitive agreement to merge with Poet Holdings, Inc., (Prime Standard, ISIN: US7304471094), a public company listed on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. For more information, call 510-780-1500 or visit www.versant.com.

Forward Looking Statements Involve Risks and Uncertainties

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and is subject to the safe harbor created by those sections. These forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to,

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statements about the performance of Versant software and the specific customer relationship with Wurth Group. Investors are cautioned that any such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties. Actual events or results may differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements as a result of various factors. These factors include, but are not limited to, statements regarding Versant's expectations, beliefs, intentions or strategies regarding Versant and Wurth's business relationship and the continued existence of such relationship. These statements involve risks and uncertainties that may cause Versant's actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. These and other related risks are described in more detail in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Company's most recent Reports on Form 10-K and 10-Q made with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The forward-looking statements included in this press release are made only as of the date of this press release, and the Company has no obligation to publicly update these forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances.

NOTE: Versant and VDS are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Versant Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. All other products are a registered trademark or trademark of their respective company in the United States and/or other countries

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