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For those of you who were affected by the recent blackout, is your company currently taking steps to conserve energy?

- Definitely! As much as we can!
- Where possible, yes
- Not really. We don't see a need to

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Systems

Web Posted: 08/22/2003 11:37 AM ET



Cambridge, ON, August 22, 2003: G-NET In-Vehicle Computing, a developer of mobile multimedia and computing systems, has announced a new in-vehicle computer product; the G-NET Aurora Auto PC; an in-vehicle computer system designed

for automotive, RV, marine, and transportation/logistics use.

This flagship model in the firm's line of Auto PCs is capable of playing MP3s, digital video, and DVDs, and also has support for GPS navigation, wireless Internet, and vehicle diagnostics. Housed in a small, black design, it features an Intel Celeron processor (P4 upgrades also available), 256MB of RAM, a 20GB 2.5" hard disk drive, a PCMCIA slot for installation of a wireless Internet/network card, four USB ports, DVD-ROM, two IEEE 1394 ports, and a SPDIF input for audio sources. It is completely open architecture, which means that 3rd party Windows XP compatible software and hardware can easily be used with the system.

"Our systems are ideal for business people, real estate agents, lawyers, and executives alike," commented Shawn Gusz, President, G-NET Canada. "Having a full-blown in-vehicle computer system allows the user to have a fully functional mobile office, and even wireless Internet/corporate network connectivity."

Each G-NET Auto PC comes configured with G-NET's own Digital Dash software suite, menu system that affords one-click access of the most popular applications. The program features large, easy-to-read buttons that link to the MP3 player, video player, DVD player (if applicable), and GPS navigation software, and 3D visualizations are featured on the main screen. Smaller, less frequently used buttons linking to volume control, Internet, scheduler, and calculator can also be found on the interface. Digital Dash loads with the Windows shell, and offers one button access to the standard Windows user interface.

Other G-NET Auto PC models include the Revolution, which the firm deems its most popular system, and the Memphis, which the firm states is "oriented specifically toward the mobile business market." G-NET also carries a wide range of mobile VGA and video LCDs, as well as a wireless digital media remote and keyboard, and external USB and FireWire drives.

The Aurora Auto PC is currently available for \$2,249 (PC only; LCD and accessories are extra) directly through the firm, or through their "small but growing" network of dealers. The firm notes that dealer and distributor pricing for the Aurora Auto PC is available upon dealer registration, and discounts are based on configuration and quantity. In addition, for vehicle manufacturers, systems integrators, and higher volume distributors, the firm will offer an OEM co-branding system that includes customized software and allows for higher MSRP markups.

Upcoming trade shows, meetings, and more, updated in [Upcoming Events](#).

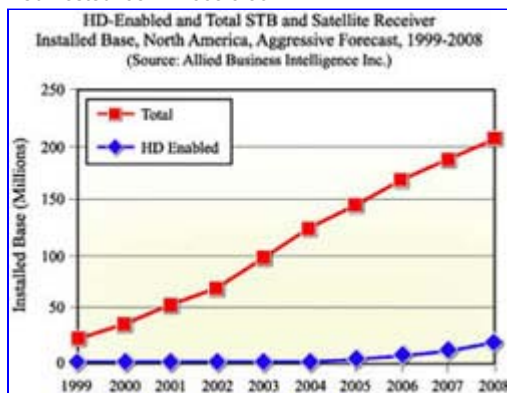


For more information, contact G-NET In-Vehicle Computing, 11 Sinclair Ct., Cambridge, ON N1T 1K2; (519) 623-4901; or visit the firm's Website at www.gnetcanada.com.

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Competition Could Spark In Set-Top Box Market Between Traditional & CE Vendors

Web Posted: 08/22/2003 9:56 AM ET



Oyster Bay, NY, August 22, 2003: According to the NY-based technology market research firm, ABI (Allied Business Intelligence) Research, the time when a set-top box (STB) was simply a device owned by the cable operator and leased by the consumer through

which cable programming could be viewed at home is no more. Cox and Scientific Atlanta have begun to move the set top box into the retail market in Phoenix, AZ, and now an agreement pending at the FCC in the U.S. between top cable companies and CE makers could exacerbate this trend.

The U.S. "plug & play" agreement, as it's called, pushes for a standard allowing cable subscribers to directly connect integrated DTV receivers to their cable systems and receive basic and premium (one-way) digital programming. If approved in the U.S. by the FCC in the coming weeks, this will afford various players, including CE vendors, the opportunity to try their hands at marketing their present and future CE products independently of the offerings of the local cable provider.

ABI predicts that by the end of 2004, just less than one million HD (high definition) enabled set-top and satellite receivers will be in use in North America. By the end of 2005, ABI predicts that over 15 million PVR (personal video recorder) enabled set-top and satellite receivers will be in use worldwide, according to a new study.

"The traditional STB vendors will start to build solutions that are retail consumer-friendly, while the traditional CE vendors will encroach onto the set-top turf by offering DVD recorders, game consoles and PVR devices that are digital cable-ready," explained Vamsi Sistla, a Senior Analyst with ABI. "This competition will be healthy for consumers and will foster new and interesting improvements in home entertainment."

"If the STB industry incumbents do not adapt to changing technology and business models then CE leaders such as Sony, Toshiba, and Samsung, with years of consumer marketing experience and broad retail distribution channels, are positioned to steal their market share," continued Sistla. "If CE vendors offer more attractive and cheaper solutions, then MSOs will find value