

SVOX speech technology powers ground-breaking ClarionMiND™

Zurich, Switzerland, December 17, 2008 -- SVOX, the leading provider of embedded speech solutions today announced that Clarion's newest Mobile Internet Device ClarionMiND features SVOX speech technology, according to CEO Volker Jantzen. The innovative device, which combines navigation and entertainment capabilities with Internet connectivity to realize connected navigation services, is destined for North American and European markets.

A combination of a high-resolution screen with the latest browser technology enables, for the first time, unrestricted PC-like Internet experience on a Mobile Internet Device with a built-in navigation capability. Connectivity to the Internet is available through Wi-Fi or Bluetooth using mobile phone dial-up.

Andreas Augsten, Manager Engineering at Clarion Europe, said "For such a ground-breaking device as ClarionMiND, we were looking for a speech solution that both delivers the expected quality level and allows for fast integration and last-minute changes. SVOX Mobile Pro TTS solution fits the bill perfectly."

SVOX Mobile and SVOX Mobile Pro TTS solutions are available as part of the Elektrobit Street Director solution used by Clarion to enable navigation in ClarionMiND. Customers using SVOX Mobile and SVOX Mobile Pro TTS solutions can choose from 21 languages and 28 voices and benefit from a powerful, production-grade tool chain.

Martin Reber, SVOX COO, stressed the customer benefits stemming from pre-integration of SVOX TTS into the Elektrobit navigation software solution. "When speech technology comes pre-integrated into the overall navigation software package, customers like Clarion have fewer technicalities to worry about and can instead concentrate their efforts in areas where the use of embedded speech allows true differentiation."



About SVOX AG

SVOX AG is the leading provider of embedded speech solutions for automotive and mobile device industries. The SVOX Text-to-Speech system, the company's signature solution, enables electronic devices to convert written text into natural-sounding and easily comprehensible speech. SVOX's focus on the embedded domain and the modular design of the Text-to-Speech engine means that the solution can be easily tailored to specific technical requirements and market needs.

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About Clarion

Clarion Co.,Ltd., headquartered in Tokyo and consolidated subsidiary of Hitachi Group since 2006, is ranked by *Automotive News* as one of the top 100 global OEM suppliers. An international leader in car audio and electronics since 1940, Clarion is involved in the research, development, engineering, design, manufacturing, sales and marketing of vehicle entertainment, navigation, communications and security products for the automotive and recreational vehicle environments, with marketing and sales affiliates in Europe, North and South America, Asia and Australia. Clarion is located on the Web at www.clarion.com.