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Canadian Spotlight

Welcome to a special section of our site devoted to Canadian firms making a difference in the global Pocket PC marketplace.   These are not product reviews, but rather product/service briefs written with the help of the company to showcase their product.

Canada Pocket PC - Canadian Spotlight   November 27, 2002

Bridging the Wireless Data Gap

I'm InTouch v3.1   *from 01 Communique*

Imagine the power to extend your office desktop into the palm of your hand. It's possible, and these days it's becoming increasingly more common among business users as the use of wirelessly enabled PDA's and Web-enabled cell-phones continues to grow. Wireless providers have been falling over themselves in recent years to bring data and web services to the wireless business user. Widely believed by analysts to be the next major growth area in the industry, wireless providers are investing huge sums of money in developing next generation data communications networks that increase the speed of data transfer across wireless networks.

The challenge that the big wireless companies are facing is providing services that are useful to the average wireless business user. This is where the **I'm InTouch**™ service from Toronto based integrated communications services vendor **01 Communique** is leading the way.
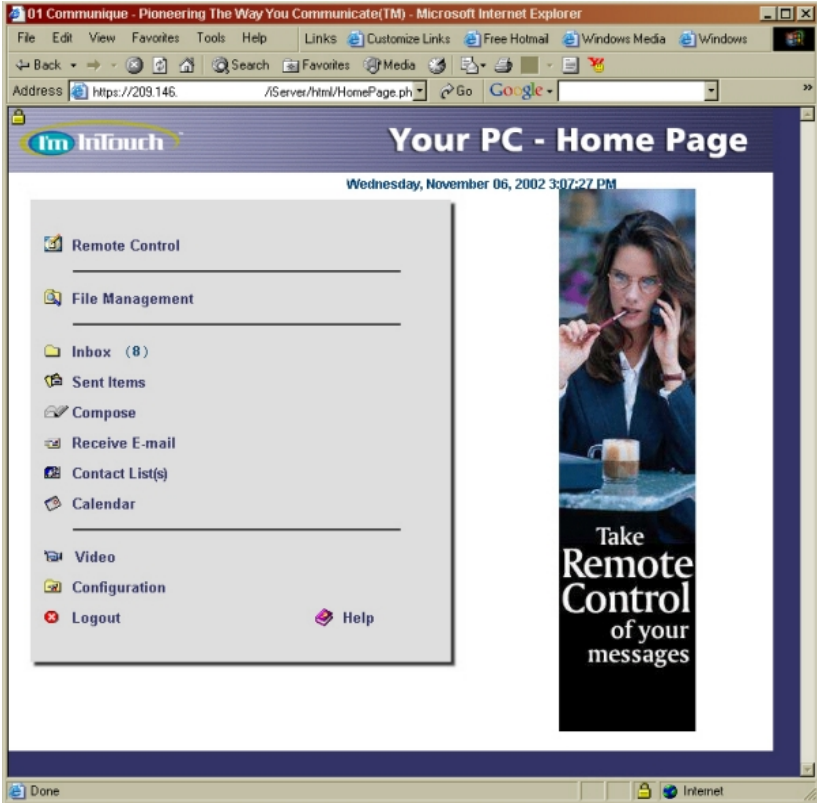
I'm InTouch is an application that allows you to remotely access and control your PC over the Internet using any wired or wireless device with a browser. This service provides a new level of integrated wireless communications and mobile computing power to wireless handheld device users and to those still using a normal computer. **I'm InTouch** is a unique remote access service in that it provides the convenience of choice to use any available device with Internet access.

I'm InTouch is installed on a users desktop PC and creates a virtual mobile window to the information that the user needs on their computer. It gives the user unprecedented access to files, e-mail and attachments, Outlook contact and calendar info. Everything you do with I'm InTouch is done in real-time from your computer, which eliminates the need to return to your home or office to synchronize your wireless device or PDA with your PC. For example, you can read, reply and compose email and attach files that are resident on your computer. If you were to read and delete an email, the email will be in your deleted items folder when you return to your computer.

While away from your PC, you simply point the Web browser on your PDA or Web-enabled cell-phone to the I'm InTouch home page and input the unique computer name that you created during installation. **01 Communique**'s technology will find your computer connected to the Internet and request your username and password for authentication. You then have a direct connection between your wireless devices presence on the Internet and your personal computer, commonly referred to as a peer-to-peer connection. It really is that simple, you can use any device with a web-browser and unlike many remote access solutions you do not require any client side software on the remote device.

I'm InTouch was designed to meet the needs of wireless users and incorporates a number of features that make it an ideal tool for those users who are conscious of bandwidth or kilobyte usage. With I'm InTouch running on your computer and built-in document rendering technology, I'm InTouch allows users to view most file types on their device immediately. This allows the user to save on bandwidth charges associated with large file download times. If the user wishes they can download the complete file to the device for editing.

I'm InTouch can also be configured to send wireless notifications of e-mail received from specific addresses at your office PC to a designated wireless device. The wireless notification service sends a short text message to your wireless device with the name of the original sender, message subject and the first few lines of the e-mail. If you want to read the rest of the e-mail it is as simple as logging into your computer using I'm InTouch to retrieve and reply to the full message.

I'm InTouch has many practical applications:

- Stay on top of important email as it arrives back at the office through the wireless notification feature – login and respond to the email from your wireless phone and it is sent with your desktop email address
- Complete a sales call and immediately send an email with the files that you promised, even though they sit on a computer in another city
- View important information that you know sits in a file back at the office
- Need to get a contact number from your contact list on the computer back at the office, once it is found, your cellular phone can automatically dial the number that is in your contact record
- Update your calendar as your schedule changes when you are traveling, with your updates immediately reflected on your computer
- Add a new contact

When using **I'm InTouch** to access your desktop you are synchronizing at the same time, thus meaning that any changes you make to files, calendar or contacts from a remote location are made in real-time back at your home or office PC. For many mobile employees and telecommuters this means greater independence and less time spent traveling to and from the office to synchronize and copy files between devices. If you have to add a contact, update an invoice or access a company specific software program you can do it all remotely with **I'm InTouch** and the changes you make will be waiting for you when you return to your PC.

I'm InTouch also features a video streaming capability that allows you to link into up to four web cams attached to your PC. This feature can be used for a variety of purposes including security, product demonstrations or allowing you to see what's going on back at the office while you are away. Again with bandwidth considerations in mind, I'm InTouch can be configured to send a single web cam image every 4 seconds so that the average wireless device can use the streaming video feature.

With 128 bit encryption, and a special diagnostic tool to help you set-up **I'm InTouch** behind a firewall you don't have to worry about keeping your information safe. **I'm InTouch** can even be configured so that multiple machines can run the program behind a firewall, thus allowing multiple employees cost effective remote access to multiple PC's, without having to set-up and configure an expensive VPN server.

I'm InTouch is available for a thirty day free trial at www.01com.com. At the end of the free trial you will have to pay a subscription of $15 monthly or $150 annually to use the **01 server** to set up the peer-to-peer connection between your remote location and your computer.
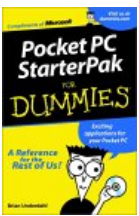
If you are interested in more information, please contact the company directly:

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