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Press Release

PENTACON, INC. SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH ECOLOOK.COM TO REDUCE VAN FEES AND CREATE A PRIVATE E-MARKETPLACE

*Successful current project and cost savings lead to new
agreements with ECOlook.com*

HOUSTON, Texas, September 26, 2000 - ECOlook.com, a leading e-business services company that provides an intelligent link between organizations for the purpose of automated business information exchange, today announced a second agreement with Pentacon, Inc. (NYSE: JIT), the leading distributor of fasteners and small component parts to Original Equipment Manufacturers.

As a follow-up to its successful work creating Pentacon's online Advanced Inventory System, ECOlook.com will broaden its services for Pentacon by implementing two new e-business initiatives to lower data transmission fees and reduce inventory procurement costs.

Mark Kingston, Chairman and CEO of ECOlook.com said, "We are very pleased to tackle these new e-business initiatives for Pentacon as a follow-up to our successful customer-controlled inventory solution. E-business is all about improving efficiency and boosting productivity to grow the bottom line. We're confident that these new initiatives will help Pentacon do just that."

In one initiative, Pentacon will implement ECOlook.com's web-based iVAN™ service to replace the value-added network (VAN) it is now using to send EDI documents to many of its largest customers. As a result, Pentacon will eliminate VAN fees and enjoy a reduction in its data transmission costs. Also, as a second phase of this initiative, ECOlook.com will automate the process of translating and re-formatting EDI files to enable seamless integration of this data directly into Pentacon's J.D. Edwards-based back office system.

In the second initiative ECOlook.com will add increased functionality and efficiency to Pentacon's Advanced Inventory System (AIS). In this initiative, ECOlook.com will create a private e-marketplace to be used by Pentacon and one hundred of its top suppliers. The private e-marketplace will be used by Pentacon to post requests for quotes (RFQs) and efficiently and cost-effectively procure non-essential inventory items not included in the Pentacon online AIS.

"We use thirty-five unique EDI document types and send thousands of EDI transmissions a month to this group of customers," said Rory McClure, Director of e-Commerce for Pentacon. "The cost-savings that we anticipate from this initiative are dollars that flow straight to the bottom line. As a Pentacon shareholder, I appreciate that."

Using key elements of ECOlook.com's CustomerLines, SupplierLines and Exchange Lines services suite, the solution will enable Pentacon to quickly respond to its customers' RFQs for non-AIS listed parts. Pentacon will respond by posting an identical RFQ to its private e-marketplace. In turn, suppliers will post bids in an open market setting where all bids are visible. At the end of the bidding process, ECOlook.com will automatically aggregate and rank all bids according to Pentacon's specified criteria and present them to Pentacon in a single electronic file for the bids to be awarded or denied.

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Mark Baldwin, Pentacon Chairman and CEO stated, "With ECOutlook.com's solution, we will be able to quickly and efficiently service our customers without the expense of carrying excess inventory. This solution eliminates redundancies and non-value added activity from the procurement and replenishment process."

James Paat, President and COO of ECOutlook.com said, "Our growing relationship with Pentacon is evidence of how easy it is for companies to work with ECOutlook.com. Unlike some solutions that require a huge upfront investment in new hardware, software and additional staff which forces you to make major changes in the way you do business, we make it easy and very affordable for companies. And, as our solutions prove out, it's only natural for companies to take on new initiatives. We look forward to a long and mutually profitable relationship with Pentacon."

About Pentacon, Inc.

Headquartered in Houston, Texas, Pentacon is the leading distributor of fasteners and small component parts to Original Equipment Manufacturers and a preeminent provider of related inventory management services. Pentacon presently has 37 distribution and sales facilities in the U.S., along with sales offices in Europe, Canada and Australia. For more information, visit the company's web site at www.pentacon-inc.com.

About ECOutlook.com

ECOutlook.com is a unique provider of business-to-business information exchange services that enable Global 500 companies to rapidly and easily engage in e-business. The company is leading the Internet business-to-business curve by providing an open infrastructure that enables effective, cost-efficient and seamless flows of information between a company's business systems, such as SAP (NYSE: SAP) and Ariba (NASDAQ: ARBA) and all their suppliers, customers, extended trading communities and digital marketplaces. All this can be done in a matter of weeks, without implementing new standards, software or hardware. As ECOutlook.com customers join the e-business revolution they quickly begin enjoying many benefits such as opening new revenue channels, slashing costs, increasing operational effectiveness and strengthening business relationships.

ECOutlook.com's unique solution is built using proven technologies, including tools from Microsoft (NASDAQ:MSFT), webMethods (NASDAQ:WEBM), and Sterling Commerce (NYSE:SBC). The company is headquartered in Houston, Texas, with operations in Columbus, Ohio. For more information, visit www.ecoutlook.com today.

All names and products mentioned are the trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective organizations.

This document contains forward-looking statements that are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those anticipated, estimated or projected. These and other risks and assumptions are described in Pentacon's reports that are available from the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

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