



Energie du Mali Upgrades to DAP Technologies Rugged Handheld Computers *Electricity and water company upgrades to lightweight DAP CE3240B*

BAMAKO, Mali (Feb. 19, 2010) -- Energie du Mali (EDM), one of Africa's first utilities companies to transition to a computer-based system for reading meters and logging customer usage, is upgrading the handheld computers used by its meter readers. The first of approximately 250 DAP Technologies' CE3240B rugged handheld computers are being deployed this month to Zone Agents throughout the western African nation.

Since 2004, EDM had been using DAP's CE5000B. While the CE3240B packs in many of the same features as its predecessor – including enhanced functionality and processing power -- the overall design of the unit has been reengineered.

Smaller, lighter and ergonomically designed, the rugged handheld computers are designed to reduce user fatigue. The device weighs only 454 grams with the extended-life battery, which provides power for an entire 8-hour shift and is field-swappable.

With DAP's CE3240B, data will be transmitted by Wi-Fi over the local area network and also by GPRS real-time to the back-office server. From there, the integrated solution developed in partnership with AS Consulting, will automatically update the billing system. The outcome will be a faster, more efficient transfer of data that eliminates the need for Zone Agents to physically visit the main office to download the data.

DAP has also customised a special connector for Energie du Mali that will be used to carry out the indices readings by probe, thereby reducing manual data entry. The new connector allows an automatic, faster reading of the meter index using an optical probe. Previously, the Zone Agent could spend as much as 10 minutes performing a manual reading, but now the information is transmitted in seconds using the new connector.

“Energie du Mali was forward thinking in making the transition from a paper-based system to a computer-based system, and they are reaping the rewards by increasing operational efficiencies, decreasing errors and lost data, and saving costs overall,” said Simon Bowe, general manager for DAP Technologies' EMEA office. “They're looking to the future by upgrading to DAP's CE3240B computer, and by transmitting data using local and wide area wireless communications, Energie du Mali has the opportunity to increase efficiencies further.”

About DAP Technologies

DAP Technologies, based in Abingdon, U.K.; Tempe, Ariz; and Quebec City, engineers and manufactures rugged handheld and mobile computers for harsh environments. DAP's computers improve data collection, processing and transmission in a variety of industries, including utilities, field service, access control, and transportation. DAP is an affiliate of Tempe, Ariz.-based RMT, Inc. www.daptech.com +44 (0) 1235 462130 salesEMEA@daptech.com