

TELEFONICA AND FICOSA BECOME PARTNERS TO DEVELOP M2M PROJECTS

Telefonica and FICOSA have signed a cooperation agreement with the aim to start joint projects of remote communications (M2M)

Both Companies will also develop and commercialize applications in the fields of energy efficiency and health (e-health)

Barcelona, 8th of November, 2012.- Telefonica and FICOSA have signed a cooperation agreement with the aim to design, develop and implement M2M projects. The agreement has been signed by the president of Telefonica, César Alierta and the president of FICOSA, Josep Maria Pujol.

With this agreement, Telefonica and FICOSA become strategic partners to share their potential in the fields of research and innovation to jointly design and implement communication modules with SIM cards that allow remote communications (M2M), with applications in the automobile sector, logistics, domotics as well as vending machines or arcade games machine, among others.

The agreement also includes the joint development of new projects in the areas of energy efficiency, where FICOSA has a specific division, and health, sector in which Telefonica is presently developing several projects aimed to improve patients' quality of life and to allow remote assistance to chronic patients.

In this sense, Telefonica will be the supplier of telecommunication technological and IT services, projects or solutions for the different applications, while FICOSA will afford know-how in the communications field.

Mobility

In the field of communication sets, FICOSA has developed a comprehensive solution of telematic control units (TCUs) for the automotive industry. The purpose is to provide a complete communication platform to OEMs. This will allow to supply the final consumer with a wide range of services (emergency call according to the new European standard, fleet management services, driving optimization services, etc.).

The Group is currently mass producing this telematic control units for several OEMs. With this agreement with Telefonica, FICOSA aims to export the experience in designing, developing and manufacturing solutions for the automotive industry to other sectors such as M2M.

Press Release

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One of the objectives is that the common projects of Telefonica and FICOSA are also present in the mobile environment. This means an opportunity given that smartphones usage is growing and that Barcelona is Mobile World Capital until 2018, which will allow talent attraction and development of the smart cities.

Telefonica and FICOSA have previous experience in the joint development of services, since they have participated in two projects, such as MARTA –Mobility and Auto with Advanced Transportation Networks- and Smartquee.

MARTA project, of European scope, promotes the investigation and development of communications between vehicles and between vehicles and traffic infrastructures with the aim to reduce accidents and improve mobility.

Smartquee project consists in the development of the first bus shelter where using your mobile you can buy tickets for transport and leisure, search and download information about public transportation.

About Telefonica

Telefónica is one of the world leaders integrated operator in the telecommunication sector, providing communication, information and entertainment solutions, with presence in Europe and Latin America. It operates in 25 countries. Telefónica's total number of customers amounted to 306,6 million.

About FICOSA

FICOSA is an industrial group based in Spain and a global leader in research, development, production and marketing of automotive systems and parts. Founded in 1949, the company, with headquarters in Barcelona (Spain), holds a team close to 8,000 employees and manufacturing plants, technological centres and offices located throughout 19 countries in Europe, North America, South America and Asia.

The Group invests 4% of its income in R&D, and operates one of the top technology development centres in Spain addressed to the automotive, electronics, energy and communications industries. FICOSA has positioned itself for the future as a world leader in electronic systems with a global and more diversified business agenda and an expanded added value product line.

More information

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