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For Immediate Release

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StoreNext to offer top-tier self-checkout system for independent grocery chains

Self checkout reduces costs and increases convenience for shoppers

DALLAS – Feb. 24, 2003 — StoreNext Retail Technologies LLC today announced it will offer a new self-checkout solution – to be developed jointly by Fujitsu Transaction Solutions Inc. and Optimal Robotics – to the independent grocery market. The self-checkout system will enable grocery retailers to significantly reduce store labor costs and increase shopper service and satisfaction.

The announcement was made at the Food Marketing Institute's (FMI) annual Markettechnics Show, Feb. 23-25, 2003 at the Dallas Convention Center.

The new self-checkout system will be designed for retailers who want to provide business-differentiating customer service while relentlessly reducing cost at the point of sale. StoreNext will offer the new self-checkout system in both express and full-order configurations. It will combine Optimal's U-Scan® products with software enhancements and SmartPoS peripherals from Fujitsu that increase system availability and reduce the retailer's total cost of ownership.

"Relentless cost reduction is StoreNext's unique mission," said Bruce Minale, StoreNext general manager. "Offering the Fujitsu/Optimal self-checkout system is another example of StoreNext's philosophy of making top-tier technology affordable to the independent grocery market. Independents will have access to a self-checkout system that can provide competitive differentiation and dramatic cost reduction."

"Through StoreNext's relationship with Fujitsu and Optimal, StoreNext will package Optimal's products via their extensive dealer network, offering self-checkout to smaller retailers while giving dealers an industry-leading technology," said Marty Reiss, vice president of sales and special projects for Optimal Robotics.

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A joint venture of Fujitsu and Retailix



System benefits

The new self-checkout system will offer numerous benefits to independent grocery chains. For example, a single cashier will be able to serve four checkout lanes, reducing annual labor costs by up to \$100,000 per store.

Grocers will be able to install four self-checkout lanes in the space of three traditional lanes, providing an additional lane per store without reducing selling space. They will be able to improve customer service by offering faster checkout at peak times.

The new systems will also implement Fujitsu-developed lane management software that monitors and provides real-time store manager alerts via Internet communications to a wireless device, e-mail or mobile workstation whenever self-checkout lanes are under-used. The self-checkout system will also incorporate the industry's first electronic check conversion with check imaging, eliminating the need for operator intervention and providing dramatic cost savings to the retailer, based on a recent study by the Food Marketing Institute. The self-checkout system will be available with an optional dual-belt take away that will allow one bagger to simultaneously service two checkout stations or use self-checkout on high-volume lanes.

Fujitsu's SmartPoS peripherals in the self-checkout system will enable retailers to increase asset utilization by monitoring components for usage and failure conditions, either internally or through Fujitsu's managed services organization. Asset management software automatically alerts the help desk of failures or anticipated failures to reduce system downtime, eliminate store personnel involvement and reduce help desk intervention.

About StoreNext Retail Technologies LLC

StoreNext Retail Technologies LLC is the No. 1 supplier of retail technology to independent grocers and small chains. Based in Plano, Texas, StoreNext is a joint venture of Retailix Ltd. (NASDAQ: RTLX) and Fujitsu Transaction Solutions Inc. and markets Fujitsu POS hardware, Retailix's ISS45 POS software and Internet Connected Services for managing stores via Web-enabled applications. StoreNext is the only retail IT company focused exclusively on meeting the needs of this wholesaler-served market with packaged solutions that were previously available, affordable or practical only for large chains.

Web site: www.storenext.com

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For sales and product information call (469) 241-8400.

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