Aplus Mobile Introduces A New Harsh Environment, DC-Powered Personal Computer

Aplus Mobile introduces a Harsh Environment, DC-Powered Personal Computer, the A20-MC. The A20-MC is capable of withstanding extreme environmental conditions, as well as operates all Windows, Linux or QNX applications concurrently.

For Immediate Release

OREGON CITY, Ore./EWORLDWIRE/March 5, 2007 --- Aplus Mobile's A20-MC differs from other "car-puters" and laptops in that it is sealed to prevent contamination, and it draws minimal power from the vehicle or battery source.

Aplus Mobile, Inc. is an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) that designs, develops and manufactures 12 - 24 Volt DC-powered hardened personal computers that operate like a desktop PC or laptop but are more reliable in harsh environments.

Limitations of current mobile computers in harsh environments include contamination, power surges/drop-outs and the amount of required input power.

The casing of the A20-MC is made of cast-aluminum and sealed so no dirt or water can seep through. A laptop draws air, dirt and water into the casing through the fan and will not survive the typical moist and contaminated environment such as that of a farm vehicle. The water resistant A20-MC can even be washed down along with the vehicle.

The A20-MC includes an internal battery back-up to prevent system crashes. This backup is called an Uninterruptible Power Supply (12V-UPSTM) and it automatically protects the unit during power interruptions. This is a trademarked feature of all Aplus Mobile computing products.

The A20-MC is energy efficient and can be plugged directly into a cigarette lighter socket or powered by a small solar panel. A similar installation using a standard laptop would require an inverter and more than twice as much power.

Circuit designer, Tim Faucett, solved one autonomous robotics customer's problem by replacing a conventional server with the A20-MC. "The server burned up his vehicle's alternator. He was able to save his project because of the high power efficiency of the A20-MC, while maintaining the high computing power of Intel's Core 2 Duo processor."

Automotive and marine users can interface the A20-MC with an OBDII/CAN module using a connection already present in their (1996 and later) vehicles. With a Digital-Dash-Display, users can analyze engine and chassis data in real time. Custom car builders can provide a graphical, custom dash display.

Public transportation providers can store common web pages and news for use by their riders via WiFi. Pages can be updated by the main computer at the bus barn each morning. The A20-MC can also provide real time bus location information and video advertising on LCD screens.

The A20-MC can also be powered by a single 40 Watt solar panel and battery combination to provide information at a remote event kiosk. It can be used to operate greenhouse controls. It can also be used to provide an outdoor WiFi onnection to a main computer system.

Operators in warehouse environments can use the A20-MC's sealed casing to keep dust and other contaminants out of their computing equipment, preventing premature failure from airborne contaminants and water.

Educational and scientific users can collect data remotely with less power demand. One result is that battery packs need to be changed less often.

Aplus Mobile, Inc. is a USA-based high-technology company and was founded in 2004 to design and manufacture DC powered harsh environment mobile computers for extreme applications. The company strives to support North American customers and limit their impact on the environment.

For more information and a press photo package on the A20-MC and Aplus
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