

WeRoam now with large WLAN network in Brazil

From Rio de Janeiro to Sao Paulo, the wireless Internet can now also be accessed conveniently and securely using SIM authentication

Berne / Sao Paulo, 27 May 2004. South America is also experiencing a boom in the number of Wi-Fi hotspots for wireless Internet access. Today, well over 220 of the most attractive locations in Brazil are part of the global WeRoam network. For business travelers throughout the world, this means that WLAN can now be accessed conveniently and securely across Brazil using SIM and RADIUS authentication. To achieve this, the leading international WLAN roaming platform WeRoam has entered into a cooperation agreement with the regional provider Vex.

Besides the airports in Rio de Janeiro, Vitoria and Sao Paulo, the new hotspot locations in the WeRoam network include a wide range of renowned hotels, the popular “Fran’s Café” coffee shop chain, numerous bars and restaurants as well as Sao Paulo’s ESPM University.

Brazilian company Vex, which is based in Sao Paulo, is the country’s leading WISP (Wireless Internet Service Provider) and a WLAN pioneer. Vex focuses entirely on convenient and fast broadband access to the internet on the basis of radio frequency technology. As a result of the cooperation agreement with WeRoam, the entire wireless network is now SIM capable.

Open roaming platform WeRoam has 10,000 hotspots worldwide and makes Internet access while traveling as easy as using a mobile phone. Thanks to SIM authentication, no matter

where the user may be located, the only form of identification required is a PIN number. Prepaid voucher cards are consequently a thing of the past. Even the invoicing is easy as the costs are charged to the customer's monthly bill with his own mobile phone provider.

Background:

Vex is a company created to provide easy, fast and cableless broadband Internet access in public locations, such as hotels, airports and convention centers. Pioneering the implementation of a wireless network all over Brazil, Vex provides Internet access to everyone having a Notebook or PDA compatible to 802.11b technology, known as Wi-Fi.

■ www.vexbr.com.br

WeRoam facilitates the seamless integration of WLAN and GSM network technologies, enabling global roaming for WLAN services. Key solutions found in GSM technology have been adopted to make up the WeRoam service, which provides secure authentication, signaling conversion, clearing and settlement services. This positions WeRoam as the only open roaming platform supporting all relevant authentication methods for WLAN Roaming such as SIM, Radius and EAP SIM. The wireless footprint includes today 10.000 Wi-Fi hotspot locations worldwide.

The company was established in 2001 and is owned by TOGEWA Holding (Switzerland) and Infonet Service Corporation (USA). WeRoams innovative SIM based WLAN roaming solution is patent pending.

■ www.weroam.com

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