



## For Immediate Release

### Contacts:

Michael Specht  
EmployeeConnect  
61-2- 9290 4404  
mspecht@employeeconnect.com

Glenn Cherrett  
Datacom  
64 9 303 1489  
GlennC@datacom.co.nz

## EmployeeConnect and Datacom partnership

---

**SYDNEY, Australia – June 30, 2003** – Datacom will adopt EmployeeConnect's employee self-service (ESS) portal solution for the New Zealand market. Headquartered in Auckland, Datacom's Employer Services division is the largest payroll solution provider in New Zealand currently paying 16% of the NZ workforce.

Datacom has over 25 years of experience in delivering payroll solutions. It will market and support the leading edge EmployeeConnect ESS solution as part of its PeopleManager software. The two companies jointly designed a version of the EmployeeConnect employee self-service portal which has been seamlessly integrated into Datacom's payroll solution. The ESS has been configured to provide Datacom with its own unique user interface, forms, reports and process design that is consistent in operation with the PeopleManager software.

According to Christopher Grant, Datacom's director of commercial operations, "customers want proven solutions and the EmployeeConnect ESS solution has been very successful with top Australian companies. The partnership will enable us to offer our New Zealand customers, both large and small, a greater range of capabilities without compromising the familiar design elements. Our customers will get best-of-breed software while benefiting from streamlined support, as they only have to deal with the one company"

Being web-based, EmployeeConnect's employee self-service solution enables an organisation to deliver HR services to its employees anywhere, anytime, without the need for a HR department in every location. Employees can access a wide variety of information and forms such as leave application forms, policies, pay summaries, time sheets and job specifications from their desk or even from their home, via the Internet. Providing this kind of access removes the issues of double-handling, incomplete forms, misinformation and data entry errors leading to more efficient HR services and increased employee satisfaction. The workflow features, ensure the correct HR policies and procedures are followed by employees and their managers, at all times. Since all the information is computerised in databases and more easily kept up-to-date, HR management have a wealth of information available for analysis, reporting and planning.

The EmployeeConnect solution has enjoyed strong sales, both in Australia and overseas. The company's ESS portal is used by several ASX listed companies to provide payroll and other HR information to employees in a controlled and secure environment. The integration of its ESS product into Datacom's software enables EmployeeConnect to enter the New Zealand market without incurring the usual establishment costs. Ron Schroeder, EmployeeConnect's managing director is delighted by the partnering arrangement with Datacom. "This new alliance adds to the growing recognition of our ESS solution as best-of-breed. More and more companies view their human capital strategically and with our employee self-service solution they free their HR department from time consuming administrative tasks to focus on strategic issues. Datacom's customers will be able to achieve this

without the typical need integrate employee self-service functionality with their payroll systems – it has already been done for them. The next step in the alliance is to provide Datacom’s clients a robust web-based HR solution based on the same technology.”

###

### **About EmployeeConnect**

Since launching its flagship web-based portal solution in 1998, EmployeeConnect has grown to become a leading international provider of employee self-service and workflow solutions. Its client-base spans Australia, Asia, Europe and North America and includes high profile global companies such as Nortel Networks, BHP Billiton, Corporate Express and Singtel Optus. EmployeeConnect works with its customers to convert paper-based business procedures into efficient web-based processes saving both time and money, while contributing valuable information for strategic planning. The product is marketed and supported through the company’s international offices and network of partners.

### **About Datacom**

Datacom is the largest New Zealand owned information technology company, employing 1300 people. Annual revenues of over NZ\$200 million come from systems development and integration, outsourcing services, technical services, applied solutions, and overseas business. Datacom has over 2300 customers ranging from small entrepreneurial businesses through to large corporations and government organisations. Clients include: Lucent, Telecom, Virgin Airlines, Microsoft, ENZA, N.Z.Post, Foodstuffs, Auckland University, Hewlett-Packard, Zespri, and the NZ Ministry of Education. The company has offices in Auckland, Wellington, Hamilton, Christchurch, Sydney and Melbourne.

###

*EmployeeConnect is a trademark of EmployeeConnect Pty Ltd. The Datacom name is a registered trademark of Datacom NZ. Other brand and product names may be trademarks of their respective owners.*

*Editor's Note: The correct usage of the EmployeeConnect name is one word in lowercase with capital E and C.*

###