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## FREEDOM SCIENTIFIC ANNOUNCES GPS SOLUTION FOR THE BLIND

(St. Petersburg, Florida June 29, 2004) - Freedom Scientific today announced a new GPS solution to run on the popular PAC Mate accessible Pocket PC.

"We have adapted the Destinator<sup>™</sup> GPS application sold to users of mainstream Pocket PCs, such as Hewlett-Packard iPAQ, to run on the PAC Mate, using speech and Braille. We were able to get early access to their software development kit and build our own interface to their application and maps," explained Chris Hofstader, Vice President of Software Development.

Freedom Scientific's application is called StreetTalk<sup>™</sup>. PAC Mate users will be able to install StreetTalk with the next release of the standard Destinator application and GPS receiver to make it accessible and to add special functionality for pedestrian use. This approach has several advantages.

First, Destinator uses a GPS receiver equipped with *Bluetooth*<sup>®</sup> wireless technology so it can be placed anywhere within 30 feet of the user — on the window sill, on the rear deck of a car, or even on the harness of a guide dog. There is no need to "gear up" with a lot of cables or special straps to use the solution.

Second, the maps that come on the Destinator CDs cover the USA, Canada, and Western Europe and include millions of categorized points of interest, including phone numbers. A user can select which areas to install on the PAC Mate using ActiveSync. Destinator proprietary compression technology allows maps of several states to be carried on a standard CompactFlash card. Compatible Destinator packages range from \$499 for a *Bluetooth*<sup>®</sup> GPS receiver and maps of the USA and Canada to \$699 for the same package plus maps of Western Europe. Freedom Scientific is offering StreetTalk at a special introductory price of \$79.95 through October 31, 2004. Users can add a complete GPS solution to their PAC Mate for as little as \$578.95.

Users can get directions to any of the points of interest in the map database, such as hotels, restaurants, ATMs, hospitals, etc. The application also integrates with Contacts on the PAC Mate so it can quickly navigate to any location in the user's address book.

The Destinator technology has won "Best GPS Navigation System" the last two years running from EUROPE POCKET PC AWARDS.

"We are excited to be working with Freedom Scientific to combine their industryleading technology and support with our state-of-the-art map processing and navigation technology. The result is a great boon to blind users everywhere," said Alexei Gavriline, Vice President of Business Development, Homeland Security Technology Corporation. For more information on Destinator, visit <u>http://www.destinator1.com</u>.

Freedom Scientific will be demonstrating StreetTalk at the upcoming National Federation of the Blind and American Council of the Blind conferences and plans to begin shipping in September.

## About PAC Mate

The PAC Mate is the first and only accessible version of Microsoft's Pocket PC applications for personal data assistants, or PDAs. The PAC Mate is a handheld computer that provides on-the-go access to information and computing. The PAC Mate is based on "pocket" or "small" versions of Microsoft Windows and Microsoft Office applications such as Word and Internet Explorer and is designed to integrate seamlessly with a desktop PC.

## **About Freedom Scientific**

Freedom Scientific is the world's leading manufacturer of assistive technology products for those who are blind and vision impaired and products for the special education and learning disability markets.

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