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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Comnetix Provides York University with NeXTSTEP-Based System;
System Will Handle All Undergraduate Admissions

MISSISSAUGA, Ontario, April 14, 1993 — Comnetix, a value-added reseller (VAR) of NeXT Computer, Inc.'s NeXTSTEP-based products, today announced it has completed installation of the York University undergraduate admissions system. York University, a major Canadian University located in North York, Ontario, has an undergraduate population of 43,000 and receives 25,300 applications per academic year. It will use a document processing and imaging system from Comnetix to process all its undergraduate admissions.

"We were looking for a vendor who could provide a system solution for our document processing in a very short period of time. It was critical that the vendor had imaging experience, a wide variety of products and customers, and could be flexible in meeting our objectives. Comnetix met this criteria and was able to provide a system within a timeframe of six months," said Tom Myers, director of admissions at York University.

York University calls its system "ALIAS," for "Admissions Liaison Imaging Application System." Designed to meet the functional document flow requirements of the university, ALIAS was engineered by Comnetix for maximum productivity and absolute security for document storage. In addition to handling any document submitted as part of a student's application for admission, the system also manages all York transcripts dated before 1980, which had been stored in paper format.

Initially, the ALIAS system runs on a NeXTcube server, configured with two internal hard drives and three external hard drives with a combined storage capacity of 8.35 gigabytes. Each user has a NeXTstation workstation running the NeXTSTEP object-oriented system software, which integrates both custom and off-the-shelf applications into a single, unified system with a common graphical user interface. The ALIAS system integrates a KODAK automated optical disk library with a capacity of 50 gigabytes of optical storage in a form factor the size of an under-desk filing cabinet, with high-performance Ricoh scanners, printers, tape backup units and fax modems.

Comnetix also reports that ALIAS has been ported to NeXTSTEP for Intel processors for future expansion of the system using Intel486- and Pentium-based computers.

The ALIAS system has allowed the Office of Admissions at York to eliminate paperfile systems, rennovate office space, improve the quality of the process and most importantly respond to their clients, potential students. "We no longer have to telephone students back when they have questions. We have access to all of their information on-line and handle their queries immediately," says Myers.

"The NeXTSTEP system is ideal for this process, because it has superb imaging capabilities as well as powerful text handling facilities," said Clement DiPlacido, manager of business systems for Comnetix. Also, the flexibility inherent in the NeXTSTEP object-oriented development environment has permitted Comnetix to design and implement a robust high-volume imaging system in a relatively short period of time.

To ensure accuracy and security, the ALIAS system uses a four-step document flow: document preparation/faxing, in which the admissions/transcript office receives and prepares documents for processing; scanning, where the images of paper documents are captured into the computer system; indexing/mounting, which enters the data from a document into a database; and quality assurance/disposal, the final checking of the process, after which the document is recorded for permanent storage on an optical disk in the NeXTSTEP system.

York University
York University is Canada’s third-largest university, with internationally renowned academic and research programs, respected faculty members and an ever-increasing complement of prominent alumni. The University’s mission is reflected in its Latin motto, "Tentanda Via"... the Way Must Be Tried.

Comnetix Computer Systems, Inc.
Comnetix Computer Systems Inc. headquartered in Mississauga, Ontario develops and markets mission-critical, object-oriented software applications based on the NeXTSTEP operating environment for industry-standard computer architectures such as the Intel486 and Pentium. Comnetix prepackaged and custom object-oriented software is used by higher education, commercial enterprises and the policing community.

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