



VeriSign Enables Chinese Companies to Enhance Their Online Brands in Virtually Any Language Using Internationalized Domain Names

More than 40 Around the World Actively Offering VeriSign's IDNs – 3721.com, China Channel, China Enterprise, ChinaDNS, ChinaDomain Name, ChinaSource and HiChina are Leading Providers in China

BEIJING, March 4, 2003 – VeriSign, Inc. (Nasdaq: VRSN), the leading provider of digital trust services, today announced new services that allow non-English speaking Internet users around the world to navigate the Web and to send email in their language of choice. With strategic alliances with leading Chinese Internet companies – 3721.com, China Channel, China Enterprise, ChinaDNS, ChinaDomain Name, ChinaSource and HiChina – VeriSign's Web-based Navigation and i-Nav™ plug-in services enable Chinese users to type a domain name of the Web site they wish to visit in Chinese. Additionally, upon resolution, they will continue to see the domain name in Chinese, so they can recognize it and bookmark the site for future use.

More than 40 partners around the world are actively selling Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) – domain names using non-English characters – to help companies promote their brand names and reach customers in their local languages by registering native language domain names in .com and .net. IDNs can accommodate virtually all non-English scripts, and support 350 languages.

Web-based Navigation has been installed on VeriSign's 13 DNS server locations around the world, making Internet navigation in virtually any language available globally to every Internet user for .com and .net domains, anywhere in the world. The i-Nav plug-in software companion provides a complete multilingual experience for popular browser programs like Internet Explorer and email programs like Outlook and Outlook Express. i-Nav today supports not only .com, .net and other international domain extensions, but also supports top-level domains like .kr, .jp, and is looking to support any ccTLDs and gTLDs in 2003.

“We have improved the Internet experience for non-English users so they have the choice to navigate the Internet in their own language,” said Rusty Lewis, executive vice president, VeriSign Global Registry Services (VGRS). “Language should no longer be a barrier to the accessibility and utility of the global Internet. VeriSign is pleased to back up our technology announcements with strong alliances with Chinese companies. And we are also working closely with leading Chinese companies and the Chinese government to address the issue of Chinese character variants. We feel strongly that this issue should not be allowed to slow the growth of the Chinese IDN market, and are working cooperatively towards a consensus solution.”

Through the immediate availability of IDNs, leading Chinese registrars including, 3721.com, China Channel, China Enterprise, ChinaDNS, ChinaDomain Name, ChinaSource and HiChina,

are enabling the Chinese Internet user to reap the benefits and true value of the Internet, ultimately making the Web fully accessible to them.

“IDNs are an important new product for us because the demand from our customers is very strong,” said Xin Wei, CEO of ChinaDNS. “IDNs will offer our customers more effective, localized communication, and we see a large market in China for this product.”

“We support IDNs strongly and have been actively selling them in China since 2000,” said Stan Zhang, CEO of HiChina. “We believe that the new resolution technology instituted by VeriSign will create another wave of demand for IDNs.”

The free i-Nav software can be easily installed with the click of a mouse. Upon installation all IDNs are resolved locally on the user machine. Users can install the i-Nav plug-in for free by visiting www.idnnow.com. VeriSign created the user-friendly site to educate users and support the adoption of IDNs. The site is translated into Arabic, Chinese, English, Greek, Hebrew, Japanese, Korean, and Russian to showcase the software and to help answer questions about IDNs. VeriSign is also working to translate the Web site into Brazilian Portuguese, French, Danish, Swedish, German and Spanish, by February 2003.

About HiChina

Founded in 1996, HiChina is the leading web hosting and domain name services provider in China. HiChina has to date registered over 300,000 domain names and currently hosts 60,000 websites.

About ChinaDNS

Founded in 1999, ChinaDNS offers a wide-range of web hosting solutions and domain name services. ChinaDNS offers all the major domain name extensions through wholly owned subsidiaries in major cities throughout China.

About VeriSign

VeriSign, Inc. is the leading provider of digital trust services that enable everyone, everywhere to engage in commerce and communications with confidence. VeriSign's digital trust services create a trusted environment through four core offerings—Web presence services, security services, payment services, and telecommunications services—powered by a global infrastructure that manages more than seven billion network connections and transactions a day. Additional news and information is available at www.verisign.com.

Statements in this announcement other than historical data and information constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause VeriSign's actual results to differ materially from those stated or implied by such forward-looking statements. The potential risks and uncertainties include, among others: VeriSign's limited operating history under its current business structure; the risk that VeriSign and its acquired businesses will not be integrated successfully and unanticipated costs of such integration; uncertainty of future revenue and profitability and potential fluctuations in quarterly operating results; failure of the combined company to retain and hire key executives, technical personnel and other employees; failure of the combined company to manage its growth and the difficulty of successfully managing a larger, more geographically dispersed organization; failure of the combined company to successfully manage relationships with customers, suppliers and strategic customers; network outages, network capacity constraints or security breaches; failure of the combined company's customers to accept new services or to continue using the products and services of the combined company; and competition in the various markets serviced by the combined company. More information about potential factors that could affect the company's business and financial results is included in VeriSign's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, especially in the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001. VeriSign undertakes no obligation to update any of the forward-looking statements after the date of this press release.

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