

## The Bold New Look Of Tadpole Technology

In reshaping Tadpole Technology Plc for the future, one of the key decisions taken by the Management Board was to raise the group's market visibility and understanding of its business and product lines and to develop closer links with the company's expanding customer base.

An accelerating programme, customers, partners, business editors, technology writers and other industry leaders alike are now coming to view Tadpole Technology as a dynamic, market-led corporation with two strategically-honed divisions offering unique mobile computing solutions in growth markets.

The following extracts give an insight:



### Tadpole Technology purchases major competitor ...

Tadpole Technology, maker of SPARC-based mobile computers, today announced that it had acquired its major competitor, RDI Computer Corporation. The acquisition will create the largest Unix-based Sun-compatible mobile computer manufacturer.

– *SunWorld*

**Good news for the Sun professional** ... Tadpole Technology and RDI Computer Corporation have a history of pushing the technological envelope for SPARC-based products. Tadpole-RDI's willingness to commit to the UltraSPARC roadmap through the year 2002 is good news for the Sun professional who, in this increasingly mobile world, seeks compatibility between future generations of world-class portable SPARC/Solaris solutions.

– *Mel Friedman, President, Sun Microelectronics*

**Tadpole Gears Up New Subsidiary** ... Tadpole Technology Plc has announced the structure of its new subsidiary Tadpole-RDI, which now dominates the market for portable Unix workstations.

– *Unigram/X*

**Tadpole to buy portable systems competitor RDI** ... Tadpole Technology, manufacturer of portable servers and notebooks built with Sun Microsystems Inc.'s UltraSparc processor, is acquiring competitor RDI Computer Corp. of Carlsbad, Calif.

– *Government Computer News*

**Tadpole in the swim with \$1m deal** ... Unix laptop supplier Tadpole-RDI, a subsidiary of Cambridge-based Tadpole Technology, has won an order worth more than \$1m (£600 000) from software vendor Platinum Technology (the world's 7th largest software company).

– *Computing Magazine*

**Tadpole server range adds extra SPARC** Tadpole Technology has built on its range of rugged SPARC-based notebooks with the launch of its new 4.5kg UltraSPARCIIi systems. The 300MHz VoyagerIIi series is a truly portable range of servers, completely compatible with more familiar desktop SPARC/Solaris systems.

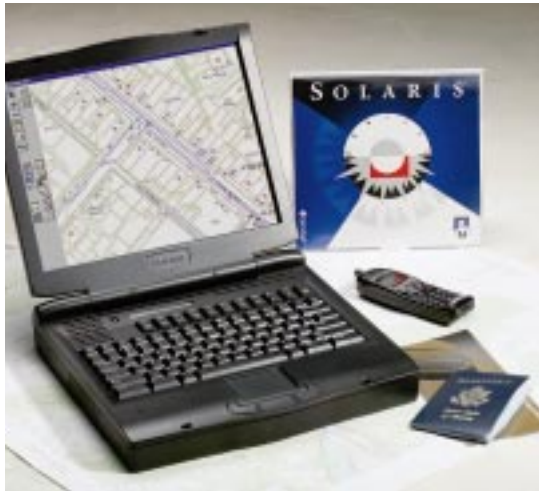
– *Network Week*

**Moveable Feast** ... Corporations planning to purchase portable UNIX desktop workstations and servers are urged to visit the website of portable Unix vendor, Tadpole-RDI, before making a decision. The (TCO) advantages of portable workstations and server systems over HP and Sun (static) systems can be over 600%.

– *Networking+*

**VoyagerIIi shatters barriers** VoyagerIIi has shattered the shortcomings of laptop systems with even greater disk space and I/O expansion and vastly increases deployment of a portable Sun/Solaris platform in US government operations; with performance nearly double that of the SPARCbook, and disk capacity four times greater, US Agencies view VoyagerIIi as being in a class of its own.

– *Rave Computer Association*



**More you show, more you sell** ... We've achieved a threefold productivity gain over statics thanks to the power, performance and flexibility of Tadpole-RDI's portable UNIX workstations. We can carry them to anywhere in the world and run any number of database applications including Oracle, Sybase, DB2 and Informix.

– **Ron Inniss, Platinum Technology, Inc**

**Lite Weights** The definition of a portable computer is going from black and white to grey. Tadpole-RDI uses mobile versions of Sun's Solaris and HP's HP-UX to produce a range of what might best be described as mobile workstations. The company's family of portables offer a highly cost effective alternative to having to ship "static" configurations.

– **UNIX & NT News**

**Have Server, Will Travel** There are many situations that call for robust and powerful mobile computing resources. If you're in such a position, then the 100% SPARC-compatible VoyagerII mobile computer system from Tadpole-RDI is for you. We were impressed with the design and engineering of VoyagerII. Tadpole-RDI should be commended.

– **SunExpert Magazine (Product Review)**

**Struggles with statics come to an end** when Cadence learned of Tadpole-RDI's new portable VoyagerII system offering the equivalent power and performance of an Ultra 10S and the capability to run the full 10,000 plus inventory of Solaris applications. VoyagerII has taken the hassle out of customer demonstrations, improved productivity and also saved Cadence a pile of money. It's the way ahead.

– **Jack Wild, Cadence Design Systems**

**Out In Front With Personalized Portable UNIX ...** Tadpole-RDI's portable UNIX workstations are today at the hub of BMC Software's routes to market. In North America alone, around 100 customized customer demonstrations are made each day on Tadpole-RDI's portable UltraBook and SPARCbook workstations. Spiraling static TCOs was certainly a major issue that led BMC to revamp its business presentation model around portables. But a more important factor in the business logic was that statics were just not personal enough for our specific computing needs and schedules.

– **Ken Skinner, Vice President of Software Consulting, BMC Software**

**Risc on the road ....** The PrecisionBook is designed to support the most demanding commercial, government and military applications traditionally performed on desk-bound HP workstations. It delivers the performance and capabilities of an HP Visualize B-Class desktop workstation in a notebook-size portable system.

– **Mobile Computing & Communications**

**PrecisionBook delivers a full Unix desktop in the field** The system has the power of a full-sized Unix desktop combined with the portability and versatility of a notebook, which is as good out on the road demonstrating a large Oracle database as it is in a comms room running a SAP R/3 system.

– **Network Solutions (Product Review)**

**TADpole Rdi**



**Tadpole leapfrogs into the portable HP Unix market** A portable system for HP-UX that offers great performance, versatility and reliability. Tadpole-RDI now has the market sewn up for specialist portable Unix solutions, delivering systems for both Sun Solaris and HP-UX operating systems.

– **Network News (Product Review)**

**At the hub** Tadpole-RDI's portable UNIX workstations are today at the hub of BMC Software's routes-to-market. In North America alone, around 100 customer demonstrations of the industry leader's enterprise-level Application Service Assurance solutions are made each day on Tadpole-RDI's portable UltraBook and SPARCbook workstations.

– **Ken Skinner, BMC Software**

**Tadpole unveils new breed of portable** Specialist computing vendor Tadpole Technology Plc has launched a new range of compact UltraSPARC driven systems for the Solaris environment. Named the VoyagerII series, the new systems can be used for enterprise software developers for full specification on-site customer demonstrations. About the size of a thick phone book, the computers can be carried onto planes as hand luggage.

– **Eurotrade Computer**

**CAD In The Field** A Unix-based rugged portable is the Tadpole-RDI PrecisionBook portable workstation. It's the only PA-RISC notebook for HP-UX users.

– **CAD User**

**Tadpole Receives Big Order . . .** Carlsbad-based Tadpole-RDI, a subsidiary of mobile computing vendor Tadpole Technology Plc, last week received orders valued at more than \$1 million from Platinum Technology, Inc. The orders cover the supply of Tadpole-RDI's UltraSPARC-driven portable UNIX work station, UltraBook.

– **San Diego Business Journal**

**EDS takes command of forces contract** The Ministry of Defense (MoD) has awarded EDS a contract worth between £20 million and £30 million to provide all three armed forces with a joint operations command system (JOCS): to replace EDS' PilotJOCS project, which has run aboard HMS Illustrious and Invincible since April 1996. The JOCS system will be based on off-the-shelf hardware and software — including Oracle RDBMS databases, SUNnet Manager and Tivoli systems management, SUN email and Sparc20 hardware, plus Tadpole Laptops.

– **Computing**

**Tadpole-RDI Dares Users to Compare** A new website ([www.tadpolderdi.com](http://www.tadpolderdi.com)) offers corporations and government agencies a better way to compare the total cost of ownership (TCO) of Sun's Ultra 10 or Hewlett Packard's B 180L desktop workstations against any of the portable units from Tadpole-RDI. Sun and HP computing professionals can open a spreadsheet called UNIX Jocks and take the Definitive TCO Workstation Test. The spreadsheet allows input of data specific to each corporation, and TCOs of static and portable workstations are calculated automatically.

– **Computer-Aided Engineering**







**Tadpole leaps into water sector with Java acquisition** Mobile supplier Tadpole Technologies has bought UK company Systems Synthesis (SSL), a Java company that supplies thin client solutions to large public utilities. The deal will give Tadpole access to SSL's Cartesia geographic information software, which is already used by electricity companies Scottish Power, Manweb and Norweb. Tadpole also said it has just won a mobile Java systems contract from Bristol Water. Tadpole has made the acquisition to help position itself as a supplier of mobile Java solutions.

– *News Wire*

**Water IT deals** Bristol Water has awarded a mobile Java systems contract to Tadpole Technology.

– *Utility Week*

**Tadpole dives into software market** Notebook supplier Tadpole has launched itself into complete solutions by buying Systems Synthesis Limited. The deal marks Tadpole's first step into the Java software market.

– *Computing*

**Tadpole's mobile Java strategy comes on line** Already deployed by UK-based electric utilities Manweb and Norweb, the Cartesia line of 3-tier applications software provides low-cost delivery of GIS information and applications to enterprise-wide desktops and can also be used by utilities to integrate spatial data with existing applications and databases.

– *Digital Strategies Europe*

**Tadpole Technology Spawns Mobile Map . . .** Tadpole has found a way to give mobile staff a richer display than a PDA could offer, but without the disadvantages of notebooks. It has developed its own Java-based hardware client to deliver its Cartesia Gateway GIS. Codenamed J-Slate, Tadpole's StrongARM-based A4- device runs WindRiver's VxWorks operating system. The demands of geographical data mean that conventional pocket computers are not suitable, but nor is the short battery life or fragile nature of a notebook PC. Cartesia has a simple user interface that can be based on a real-time operating system.

– *IT Week*

**Manweb Optimizes Customer Service and Satisfaction** Some 400 Manweb desktops and laptops are now clients of Tadpole's pioneering field information system and growing numbers of other utilities, such as BG Transco, British Telecom and Cable & Wireless have also become Cartesia clients to obtain on-line information of Manweb's GIS. The applied use of Cartesia throughout this organization has enabled Manweb to achieve significant gains in workforce efficiency and service levels.

– *Manweb of Scottish Power*

**Thin PC Helps Mobile Staff to Map or Track Repairs** Operated by hand held pen, the lightweight thin PC could save maintenance vans from having to carry hundreds of local maps. Trials for utilities such as Bristol Water have met an enthusiastic response. Fire services, which need maps of buildings showing potential danger points, could also be customers.