



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Questel•Orbit and Patolis Corporation Expand Global Partnership
*Patolis Corporation to be Exclusive Distributor of Questel•Orbit Products in
Japan and Korea*

Paris, France, and Tokyo, Japan, October 3, 2003—Questel•Orbit, one of the first online information service providers, and Patolis Corporation, Japan's leading patent information service, announced today the signing of an exclusive distribution agreement.

The partnership leverages Questel•Orbit's extensive collection of international patent information and powerful patent management tool, as well as PATOLIS Corporation's database, the only comprehensive source worldwide of Japanese intellectual property documentation.

In the next few months, Questel•Orbit and PATOLIS Corporation will jointly promote their services in Japan and Korea through:

- The Questel•Orbit Japanese language Web site now on air
- Product demonstrations at the Patent Information Fair 2003 in Tokyo (October 15-17)
- Onsite training seminars at PATOLIS Corporation

The Web site, demonstrations and training seminars will highlight:

- PlusPat, Questel•Orbit's proprietary international patent database of more than 42 million patent records from 72 patenting authorities worldwide, the largest collection in the world.
- QWEB, the patent search tool designed for expert searchers.
- QPAT, a unique patent management tool that lets users of all experience levels search for patents, analyze and visualize citation relationships, create reports complete with charts and graphics, order and distribute patent documents and many more.
- The enhanced Patent Delivery Service, an easy-to-use service with that lets users receive and archive complete patent documents from around the world then share the documents throughout the company.

The partnership is hardly new. Back in 2002, Questel Orbit began to distribute Patolis-e, the Patolis English service, throughout North America and Europe. Both partners expressed optimism that given the past successes of earlier synergies and each company's growing competitive advantages, revenue from the partnership in Japan and Korea will double in just three years. As Questel•Orbit CEO Charles Besson commented, "Expanding the partnership was a logical next step."

About Questel•Orbit, S.A.:

Questel•Orbit has been helping manage some of the world's most important IP portfolios for the last 25 years. The company provides best-of-breed IP data and search products, including a database containing the world's most comprehensive collection of patents.

The Intellectual Property Group is Questel•Orbit's major shareholder and specializes in patent and trademark rights.

About Patolis Corporation:

PATOLIS Corporation is the largest provider of Japanese industrial property information.

Press Release