



## Mobile work: trends and challenges

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## Our market focus



Supply chain & logistics M/C Speech SAP

Mobile computing

Wirelessly enabling the supply chain Mobile service, mobile sales, mobile data collection SIGNA SERVICES WLAN expertise

> Wireless LAN professional services





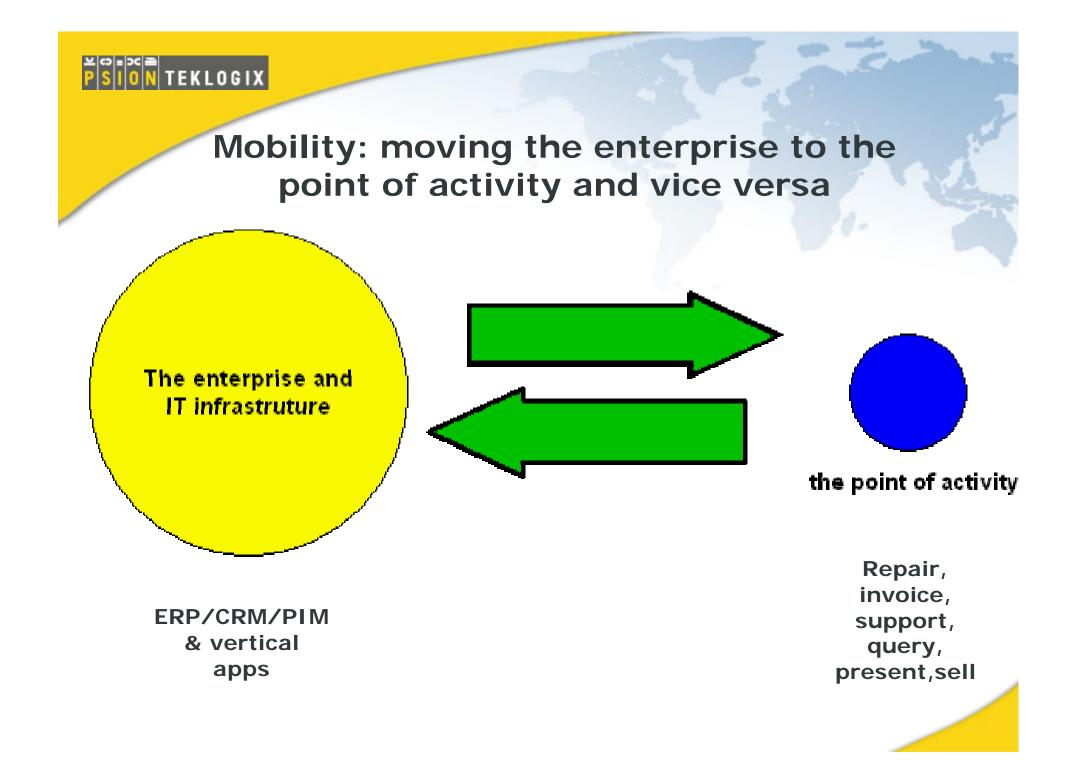


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#### Mobile work: natural computing

- For purposes of today, we will define mobile work as work done away from a traditional place of work or within the place of work but done away from your desk.
- Includes general management roles and task-specific functional roles. We need to keep these two distinctions clear as we move through our presentation today.
- Mobility is the extension of the enterprise to the point of activity. It is moving from place-centric to peoplecentric computing.
- In a sense it is the most "natural" form of computing.
  - During the industrial revolution, man was made to adhere to the limitations of the machine, we today are adhering to the limitations of the IT infrastructure and PC's; *mobility cuts the cord.*







## **Mobility report card**

Generic computing Task-specific computing

B-

Organizations are finding it harder to deploy mobile solutions for task specific work.





#### "What if" game

**Question:** If tomorrow we have ubiquitous wireless coverage AND a multitude of cost-effective devices – what % of taskspecific mobile workers will be using mobile devices to do their job within 12 months ?



Answer: some small percentage because business processes are not ready for mobilization. These changes will take years and are just now beginning in the Tier 1 companies. Business process changes are the single biggest cost in a typical non-email/PIM deployment



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### Why? The mobility "gap"

- Enterprises face much more complexity when mobilizing task specific work – key business processes usually need to change.
- Professional work is mainly about moving my desk to a laptop with little change in my relationship to the enterprise. This is not usually the case with task-specific work.
- Task-specific solutions have a higher level of impact and are less standard across individual enterprises.



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## **Other challenges**

It is not as simple as giving your workforce a mobile device – business processes have to change – but there are technology issues:

- Security of corporate data: when deploying a mobile workforce, bits and pieces of important corporate data are being "kept" in the field and there are risks attached.
- Support of the newly mobile workforce
  - Mobile device configuration and systems management (IBM/Tivoli, Computer Associates, Altiris, Novell/Callisto, Xcellenet, Mobile Automation, etc.)
  - Data synchronization (Synchrologic, Avantgo, Extended Systems, Pumatech)
  - Backup of data (Connected, Xcellenet, Verita)

#### Mobility is moving from INFANCY to TODDLERHOOD





#### **Mobile solution components**

A mobile solution will usually involve all of these components.

#### **Solution Components**

A client device

Accessories

**Device OS** 

A client-side application

Application development tools

A client-side database

Server

A server-side application

Server side OS

A server-side database

Wireless middleware/server/gateway

Network connectivity

Integration

Support and service



#### Mobilization in vertical markets: the adoption curve

**Thought:** Some vertical markets have been early adopters what can we learn from this ?

**Lesson:** Benefit/Cost ratio is the key. Only certain verticals has a high enough ratio due to the need for real-time information.

Propensity to go mobile  $= \mathbf{f}(\cos t, \tan \theta)$ information(TVI))

Cost = **f**(hardware, app. software, deployment, support)

Certain verticals (courier, field service) needed real-time information and were willing to be early investors because of a high TVI.



#### The real costs of deployment

 The real costs of deployment are not the hardware and wireless connection, but the BUSINESS PROCESS CHANGES required to utilize these devices.

• It is not just TCO, but TCI (total cost of implementation) that matters.

 Business has to re-organize around the new technology – this will take time





## BPR II - mBPR

- Over the next five to ten years enterprises need to begin rethinking how they "hang together". This is a slow process and must be driven within the context of sound financial discipline (read: ROI)
- Mobilizing task-specific work will require re-engineering certain business processes.
- You cannot hand a mobile device to a field service engineer and get more productivity and efficiency.
- A cross-functional internal project team is required.





## Key trends in mobile

Corporations now see the value of equipping the mobile worker

Trend

Trend

Trend

Trend

Open systems and standard platforms

Trend S Connectivity and bandwidth improvements

Trend Convergence

An appliance view of devices

Trend Desktop power in mobile devices

The Supranet





# Enterprises see value of mobilizing their workforce

- As the cost to mobilize falls and the need rises, enterprises clearly are starting to see the value.
- The key driver here is return on investment through lower costs and more customer responsiveness.
- The "Boardroom" will only invest when there is a clear return and when the path to this return is clear.



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#### **Open systems and standard platforms**

- The adoption of various standards, both at the computing level and the connectivity level, are key enablers for mobilizing a workforce.
- Standards make cost-effective connectivity and data sharing possible.
- Standards create predictable investment payback scenarios due to platform stability and acceptance.
- Key standards and platforms in support of mobility are GPRS, CDMA, EDGE and 3G networks, 802.11, Java, Windows, Bluetooth, Symbian, etc. etc.



## **Connectivity improvements**

- The data "pipe" into the enterprise is not in place. We are in a similar position today with wireless as we were with modems in the late 1980's – <u>CONNECTIVITY AS NOVELTY</u>
- General opinion is that it will be in place broadly by 2003 and beyond.
- 802.11 hotspots are a "sleeper" here and we are not sure of impact – should be positive.
- Some have suggested 802.11 could be as dramatic in impact as the browser/internet. The economic and business models still need to "age".





#### Convergence

 The coming together of multiple capabilities in one computing device.

 As voice, data converge in one platform, enterprises will find it more elegant and costeffective to deliver working solutions.





#### Mobile devices as appliances

 Until portable computing devices (PDC's) which includes PDA's, smartphones, laptops, etc. are as stable and predictable as appliances, wide adoption will be slowed.

 The less such devices become like PC's with their "innards" exposed (i.e. where OS is explicit), the wider the adoption.

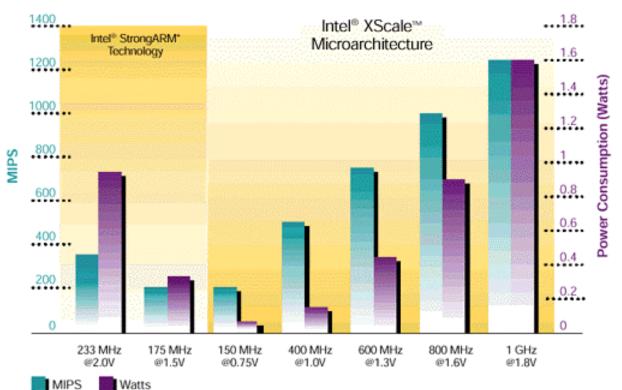
• Stability and low TCO is key.



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#### Desktop power in your hand

Technology road maps support fact that by 2005 we will have something close to desktop power in our hands.



#### **POWER-PERFORMANCE COMPARISON**





#### Devices today: do more in less size















#### Message to device manufacturers

- Mobilizing enterprise workers requires stable yet evolving platforms. PDA's for the consumer market are changing "skin" and peripherals every 6-12 months.
- Businesses need device platforms designed with end-user needs in minds and with stability and durability.
- The consumer-driven solutions are much better suited for the generic deployments, not taskspecific deployments.



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#### **The Supranet**

A Gartner Group term describing the emerging, ubiquitous network infrastructure that links the "e-world" (i.e., the world of electronic devices such as computers, phones and televisions) and the "p-world" (i.e., the physical world of paper, houses, inventory, people, vehicles and other objects) within natural human interactions.

The Supranet is enabled by four key phenomena:

- Embedded computers in many everyday objects
- Next-generation wireless networking, providing global indoor and outdoor connectivity to the Internet
- Interfacing technologies that enable bi-directional communication between p-world and e-world components (e.g., bar code scanning, speech recognition and electronic identification)
- The design of applications that satisfy user needs in a natural way with combinations of media and devices



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#### Implications and homework

- Organizations will need a <u>mobility strategy</u> to address the challenges.
- In terms of where we are today, it is in many respects like where we were in 1990 in the PC world. The process in PC's took 10 years. We need to be patient and realistic.
- The "Wedge": larger entities with the resources and needs should start by prototyping small workgroups with simple mobile tasks like email, PIM and basic CRMtype connectivity.



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## Known "knowns"

- Mobility for workers in enterprises is increasing and should continue to do so in a virtuous circle (the need exists, the technology allows it, and the need increases as the options increase to enable mobility).
- The desktop PC-centric era as the main model of computing is quickly being put behind us- as devices and software are coming together to make mobilization a reality, not a novelty.
- More and more power in our pockets, hands and jackets !
  Do not be surprised when by 2005 we have in our hands the equivalent power that is now on our desktop.
- There is no "killer application" on the horizon. Voice was. Mobile work is more about the gradual evolution of technology and business processes to support more efficient ways of working.



## Known "unknowns"

- Impact of WLAN standards and 3G standards: how will they both roll out ? – "hotspots" and 3G
- Will they road traveled in Europe be different that in North America?
- How will security best be addressed?
- How will screen and input technologies evolve ?
- What types of devices can we expect in the future ?

