## Avaya Intros Turnkey Convergence Kit

Avaya is offering businesses a "converged office kit," that contains everything they need to begin enjoying the benefits of no-compromise voice and data communications over a single IP network. Avaya's solution — the Enterprise Class Convergence Kit — brings the power of IP-based voice and data to enterprises or offices with 12 or more users, and features a complete suite of hardware and software from Avaya's Enterprise-Class IP Solutions (ECLIPS) portfolio. At the heart of this turnkey solution are the Avaya IP600 IP Communications Server and the Avaya P330 Stackable Switching System. The IP600 is a rack-mounted, IP telephony server with all of the PBX functionality and interoperability inherent within Avaya Call Processing software, built-in voice mail, fax messaging, Avaya Message Manager, and Avaya Site Administration software. The Avaya P330 is an Ethernet switching system that delivers high performance, high reliability, best-in-class scalability, and multilayer functionality, while providing the QoS necessary for IP telephony, mixed media collaboration, and streaming video.
**www.avaya.com**

## CML Versatel Releases SDK For Telecom Service Development

CML Versatel announced their SDK for the TotalAgility Platform "With our SDK, a developer can design, test, and integrate an application without having to purchase any hardware. This also allows each developer in a team to have their own personal development and test environment," said Eric Jobidon, director of business development at CML Versatel. The SDK uses GUIs and comes with complete testing functionality so developers don't need to write scripts for application testing. The TotalAgility Platform is controlled through industry standard APIs, such as TAPI, JTAPI, and VERSIT.
**www.cmlversatel.com**



## Ziatech Boosts Power In Single-Slot System Master

With the launch of its ZT 5503 System Master, Ziatech offers a powerful new choice of single-slot computer board for telecommunications and Internet applications. Featuring a processing speed of 800 MHz, this processor board is available with either 512MB or 1GB of SDRAM, depending on end-user requirements. The ZT 5503 takes advantage of the CompactPCI bus and the Intel Pentium III Processor – Low Power, which is ideal for the thermal sensitivity and space constraints associated with many communications applications. "This new BCA2 family member is designed for telecommunication and Internet applications that require completely integrated multicomputing solutions for increased performance and system reliability," said product manager Doug Steudler.
**www.ziatech.com**

## The Move To IP

Long active in the TDM development space, APEX Voice Communications (www.apexvoice.com) recently announced their move into the IP realm with the Media Server for Enhanced Services, which employs an SCE in the IP network for service creation. The Media Server is based on Dialogic cards and uses APEX's OmniView to present with a drag-and-drop interface for rapid development.

I recently had a chance to speak with Elhum Vadat, VP of APEX, regarding the Media Server. I was interested in a couple of things: both the scalability of the Media Server platform and its flexibility, i.e., what limitations, if any, does development on IP place on the developer that would not be faced in the legacy network?

To begin with, Elhum pointed out the strengths of the next-gen model and the Media Server. For instance, IP networks allow for the separation of the SCE from the network elements. An example of this can be seen in the announcement not too long ago that APEX was teaming with Nuera and Vsys to provide a complete solution for service providers. Utilizing such standards as SIP, H.323, and CORBA, the Media Server is able to access these softswitches and either control the call or hand over control to the softswitch, depending on the service.

This next-gen model needs to make available the wealth of existing but largely proprietary applications available on the PSTN. The Media Server currently supports such applications as text-to-speech, pre-paid calling, IVR, and fax. The limitations of the system reflect the limitations of the Dialogic cards, and as Dialogic introduces more functionality into their boards this functionality will be included in the Media Server.

As for scalability, Elhum pointed out that this system is intended for smaller scale carrier deployment, since it is based on a PC platform. But it sounds as if APEX is planning a move similar to their past integration with the Cisco VCO/4K in the TDM world. That is, the PC-based Media Server will be ideal small deployments by CLECs and ISPs and for test deployments by larger service providers, while a future high end platform will preserve the front end GUI and usability while increasing the scalability of the Media Server to serve larger markets.

APEX is planning to extend the current C/C++ hook to include XML/VoiceXML as well, opening the system to an even greater number of developers. Although he wasn't able to name names, Elhum stated that the APEX Switch Manager and Cisco VCO/4K are currently being used by several voice portals.

The next-gen network is in some ways a hodgepodge, and it is platforms such as the Media Server by APEX that take this confusion and make it into something desirable. For more details on SCEs and their relationship with softswitches, see the article on page 62. ■