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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **MAS iXplor(TM) Opens a New World of Exploration to Airline Passengers**

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**Matsushita Avionics Systems Corporation and Passenger Networks Announce Strategic Partnership to Develop New Interactive Moving Map Application**

**Bothell, WA, USA (April 23, 2001)** – MAS (Matsushita Avionics Systems Corporation) and Passenger Networks have reached an agreement to develop and integrate iXplor™, MAS' new airborne interactive moving map application, with MAS System 3000 In-Flight Entertainment systems.

iXplor™, the latest interactive application in the MASMedia™ suite, will allow airline passengers to view maps and a host of other information on their personal in-seat video display. The maps provide both high-resolution, full-color satellite images as well as standard road atlas-style (cartographic) images. Unlike other moving map products, iXplor™ will allow each passenger to independently explore the world, roam, pan and zoom, while at the same time viewing the current status of their flight.

Providing airline customers and their passengers with a dynamic software application that requires no additional hardware, MAS iXplor™ will display estimated time of arrival, local time at destination, miles/kilometers traveled, miles/kilometers to go, altitude, speed and many other data options. Many travel views are also available to each passenger, including a 3-D view of the globe with the passenger's flight path projected, and a satellite view that allows the passenger to zoom down and examine geographic features in great detail. The satellite view can operate with the aircraft navigation system to keep the aircraft centered on the screen, or in a free-roam mode that enables an air traveler to explore any location the world over. In addition, passengers can view the names of mountains, bodies of water, airports, cities, points of interest, roads, rivers, lakes, etc. in order to identify ground features from the air. Passengers who are interested in further exploring their world can measure the distance between any points on the map, or browse a geographic database that contains fun facts about the countries of the world. Other map views include a world time zone map and a moving day/night boundary map.

According to Brinder Bhatia, MAS Executive Vice President, "MAS and Passenger Networks bring a package of network, software design, IFE, integration and marketing expertise that will make iXplor™ a premier passenger application. We at MAS are excited to add iXplor™ to our programming suite, and we are eager to explore the many possibilities this partnership offers."

System 3000 is the most advanced in-flight entertainment system available today," says Larry Girard, President of Passenger Networks, "and we believe the integration of iXplor™ will further differentiate it from other offerings, providing an unparalleled array of entertainment options to the passenger. We are very excited about this opportunity with MAS, and look forward to finding other ways our two companies can work together."

MAS expects iXplor™ to be available to airlines before the end of calendar year 2001.

**About Panasonic Avionics Corporation:**

**Panasonic Avionics Corporation** Panasonic Avionics Corporation is the world's leading supplier of in-flight entertainment and communication systems. Headquartered in Lake Forest, CA Panasonic Avionics Corporation employs approximately 2500 employees based in over 70 locations worldwide.

Panasonic Avionics Corporation is a subsidiary of **Panasonic North America** (PNA). Based in Secaucus, NJ, PNA is the principal North American subsidiary of **Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.** (NYSE: MC) and the hub of Panasonic's US marketing, sales and service operations. Additional information on Panasonic Avionics Corporation is available at [www.panasonic.aero](http://www.panasonic.aero). Additional information on Matsushita Electric and Panasonic is available at [www.panasonic.com](http://www.panasonic.com).