



## **For Immediate Release**

### **A2IA AND SOFTPRO JOIN FORCES TO EXPAND SERVICE OFFERINGS TO NEW CUSTOMERS WORLDWIDE**

*A2iA and Softpro Agreement Enables Customers Worldwide to Utilize  
Combined Advanced Recognition and Verification Technologies*

**New York, Paris France and Boeblingen Germany – September 3, 2003** – A2iA Corp., a worldwide leading developer of natural handwriting and print recognition technology (OCR, IWR, ICR, OMR) and Softpro, the developer of the leading signature verification solution, today announced an agreement allowing customers worldwide to utilize their combined advanced recognition and verification technologies in the market.

This agreement between A2iA and Softpro expands the companies' existing market base and gives end-users access to key technologies used in check and forms processing. A2iA CheckReader and A2iA FieldReader are the most advanced Optical Character Recognition (OCR), Intelligent Word Recognition (IWR) and Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR) engines on the market. This proprietary technology gives end-users the ability to recognize handwritten and machine printed words, phrases characters and numbers from checks, forms, invoices and other documents. Available in four languages and seventeen international, country-specific versions, A2iA's technology is used around the world in helping financial institutions convert information from checks and forms into computer-usable data.

Softpro develops the only worldwide combo system for static and dynamic signature verification. Signatures found on checks, forms and other documents may be verified accurately and automatically thanks to Softpro's static verification. This versatile software helps to reduce fraud, substantially improves workflow in item processing and at the front end. It is already in production in more than 200 banks worldwide.

With this agreement A2iA and Softpro will capitalize on their extensive customer base, to better serve their existing end-users and generate additional business worldwide.

"Today marks the beginning of a comprehensive customer program that helps meet the needs of our clients on a global level," said Mr. Jean-Louis Fages, CEO of A2iA Corp.. "We are delighted to be working with Softpro to provide financial organizations with the leading recognition and signature authentication technologies on the market."

The targeted referral partnership will further enable A2iA and Softpro to substantially share synergies on their sales, business development and marketing activities around the world emphasizing global presence.

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"A2iA is widely recognized as supplier of best-of-breed solutions for check and form processing, so it is quite natural to join forces. We are committed to provide our customers the maximum in security and efficiency for check and form processing. Thus we expand on the solutions we can offer to our customers by intensifying the cooperation of the two companies." says Mr Rudolf Sprengel, CEO of Softpro.

For more information on how to integrate A2iA CheckReader or A2iA FieldReader, call 917.237.0390 x21 or email Courtney.rand@a2ia.com.

**About A2iA Corp.**

A2iA (Artificial Intelligence & Image Analysis), founded in 1991, headquartered in New York and Paris, is a leading developer of technology for reading machine print and natural handwriting, including cursive handwriting from paper documents. A2iA's focus is on recognition for payment systems and paper-intensive industries and their two leading products, A2iA CheckReader and A2iA FieldReader, are helping businesses reduce their data-entry costs. A2iA CheckReader and A2iA FieldReader combine the company's OCR, ICR and Intelligent Word Recognition technologies with its artificial intelligence and neural network systems, making it the most comprehensive advanced recognition engines on the market today. For more information: [www.a2ia.com](http://www.a2ia.com).

**About SOFTPRO.**

Softpro is based in Boeblingen, Germany and has local subsidiaries in Newark (Delaware) and Singapore. The company employs more than 50 people worldwide. Softpro is the leading vendor of systems for the verification of handwritten signatures, worldwide. The company's portfolio contains solutions for authentication of processes and documents using static and dynamic (biometric) signature recognition. More than 200 financial institutions are using modules of the SOFTPRO SignPlus® system successfully, among them many international financial institutions as well as banks with a regional or national focus. Since 2002, the offer to secure electronic documents with handwritten signatures extended the customer portfolio of Softpro to other industries such as automotive, insurance, chemical, pharmaceutical, construction, health, life sciences and logistics. For more information: [www.signplus.com](http://www.signplus.com).

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**Images Available for Press Download**

Print quality (min. 300 dpi)

*Image:* Signing of a check

[www.signplus.com/images/softpro\\_image008.zip](http://www.signplus.com/images/softpro_image008.zip)

*Image:* Signing of a check while static and dynamic signature characteristics are captured with a pressure sensitive writing tablet

[www.signplus.com/images/softpro\\_image000.zip](http://www.signplus.com/images/softpro_image000.zip)

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