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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**LEAD TECHNOLOGIES ANNOUNCES LINUX SUPPORT**

Charlotte, NC (December 8, 2000) - - LEAD Technologies, Inc., a LEADing provider of imaging developer toolkits worldwide, announces the release of LEADTOOLS Imaging for Linux, an imaging developer toolkit for the Linux operating system. LEADTOOLS Imaging for Linux is built directly upon Xlib, which offers developers more flexibility, greater speed and ease in development, and independence of graphical interface. LEAD's years of experience in imaging development have translated to a Linux imaging toolkit that provides developers with better imaging solutions. LEAD has specifically included unique viewing and painting options in their paint bitmap functions for Linux, solving painting (displaying the image) problems inherent to the Linux operating system. Off-Screen image manipulation (on images which reside in memory or files) is also supported. Developers can choose to let the LEAD paint function map the image palette to the Linux system palette avoiding unwanted color shifts in other applications. Using the LEAD dithering and converting functions, developers can paint any image with any bits/pixel in any screen depth, with no change to the image.

The toolkit includes functionality for performing image processing, from simple routines (rotate, flip and invert, etc.) to more advanced (gamma correct, hue and saturation, histogram equalize, emboss, etc.), in addition to document clean-up, file format conversion (support for more than 40 formats), and more. And, LEADTOOLS Imaging for Linux provides the ability to access all of the included functionalities over a TCP/IP Network, through the X Windows communication model. LEAD has tested the imaging toolkit with various Linux distributions such as RedHat, Corel, SuSE, Linux Mandrake, Caldera Linux and VA Linux, and has included installation tips in the toolkit's documentation.

Rich Little President of LEAD states, "LEAD is excited to bring our powerful and market-leading imaging technology to the Linux developer. We believe that Linux programmers will greatly benefit from the more than 10 years of experience LEAD has in the imaging toolkit business. LEADTOOLS is the most comprehensive imaging toolkit on the market, so Linux programmers will have a significant head start when integrating imaging into their application."

Some of the more than 40 LEADTOOLS for Linux supported file formats include:

- Tagged Image File Format support (including TIFF, TIFLZW, and CCITT) (TIF)
- MacPict file support (PCT)
- Adobe Photoshop 3.0 file support (PSD)
- Sun Raster file support (RAS)
- TARGA file support (TGA)
- ZSoft PCX file support (PCX)
- WinFax file support (WFX)
- Windows and OS/2 BMP file support (BMP)
- CALS raster file support (CAL)
- JPEG and LEAD CMP file support (CMP)
- Encapsulated PostScript file support (EPS)
- Raw FAX file support (FAX)
- GIF file support (GIF)
- IOCA file support (ICA)
- GEM Image file support (IMG)
- JBIG file support (JBG)

Image Processing options include support for:

- High and Low Level Geometric Transformations (Resize, Trim, Flip, Reverse, Rotate, Rotate, etc.)
- Color Conversion (Color Separate, Color Merge, Convert from one Color Space to another)
- Color Expansion or Reduction (Dithering for custom palette, Grayscale, Halftone, etc.)
- Geometric Transformations (high level and low level)
- Modification of Intensity Values (Change Intensity, Gamma Correct, Change Contrast, etc.)
- Image Filtering (Add Noise, Despeckle, Emboss, Sharpen, Posterize, etc.)
- Histograms (Histo contrast, Histo Equalize, etc.)
- Image combine (Combine Underlay, Picturize)
- Interpretation of bitmap coordinates (Get/Set point, View perspective, etc.)
- Getting and setting pixel values (high level and low level)

About LEAD Technologies, Inc.

Founded in 1990, LEAD grew out of years of research headed by Moe Daher to find a comprehensive compression standard for digital images. LEAD is now the world-leading supplier of imaging development toolkits, providing technology of the future, today. LEAD brings to the market the most innovative and technically superior products that provide the greatest possible value for its customers. LEAD's award winning imaging technology is chosen by Microsoft, Hewlett Packard, Intel, Boeing, Xerox and thousands of other companies for use in their high volume applications and internal systems.