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M2M

M2M at JavaOne

Machine-to-machine technology seems to be growing in importance for Sun Microsystems Inc., www.sun.com, Santa Clara, Calif. At the company's JavaOne conference in San Francisco this week, Sun's M2M partner 8D Technologies Inc., www.8d.com, Montreal, Que., will present a new vending machine solution that provides new features for consumers as well as for the distributor.

"We invited 8D to showcase their next generation Vending Machine at JavaOne once we heard about its Java features and capabilities," says Bruce Baikie, Telco Industry Strategy Manager, Sun Microsystems. "The Java based features of the solution brings the next wave of advancement to the M2M marketplace."

Sun is also scheduled to present its view of the machine-to-machine marketplace at the M2M United conference next month in San Antonio, Texas. The company's deployment with 8D for the City of Montreal has become one of a "poster child" for the industry, showing what is capable with the technology for municipalities.

"The operator can sell just about anything and his machines will accept many types of payment including coins, cellular secure SMS, etc. But our technology is fully encompassing and ready to add all other payment modes such as RFID, credit, debit and smart cards, Web-based and so on, whenever the operator wants to," says Isabelle Bettez, 8D Technologies' CEO. "Our M2M Reference Architecture is totally open and we can implement new functions with very short notice. We think time to market is the key to profitability for today's operators and, in this respect, we provide them with an incredible edge."