

## **Akira Systems and Vocantas Partner to Bring Interactive Voice Scheduling Solution to Higher Education and Healthcare**

### ***Employee time and attendance workflow now has a voice***

Ottawa, Ontario and London, Ontario – January 25, 2012 – Vocantas and Akira Systems jointly announced today that they have entered into a partnership agreement to bring interactive voice response (IVR) scheduling and workflow to healthcare and higher education markets.

Together Akira and Vocantas have formed a new solution that is the ultimate option for time saving in higher education and healthcare organizations. Now employees can simply use their voice via telephone to call into a system and find out their work schedule, schedule a shift change, take on additional shifts or report an absence. Suddenly any phone becomes a way for hundreds of field staff to directly tap into the enterprise-wide workforce communications manager.

Ashraf Ghadban, CEO of Akira Systems said “Our clients are very excited about the integration of IVR technology with the Wavelength workflow solution. Voice is a natural extension to further streamlining our client’s productivity.”

Akira’s *Wavelength* solution is a unique employee communication manager designed to help universities, colleges and hospitals improve their business workflow and streamline the work involved in staffing critical positions in a time sensitive manner. Now with interactive voice as part of the solution, nurses, doctors, faculty and administration staff can use any phone to call directly into the software solution and access their schedule. In real time, changes can be made using voice commands to request time off, take on additional shifts and much more. The information is then sent through the Akira system in a workflow designed to meet the individual customer’s requirements and workforce obligations so that approvals do not stall out and impacted schedules are updated and recorded in real time.

Gary T. Hannah, President and CEO of Vocantas said, “Hospitals and Universities have some of the same staff scheduling issues. Often employing a workforce in the thousands, these organizations have staff working irregular shifts with union enforced regulatory requirements, and administrators are often left with a difficult job to sort out time, attendance and scheduling in general. A great example is the staffing of nurses in hospitals. Last minute shift changes, absentees and vacations can cause huge headaches for these critical roles which must be staffed often at the last minute.” Hannah continues “This is a problem for which a solution has been a long time coming. With Akira and Vocantas partnering together in an industry first – the



market now has an easy to use solution that eliminates the massive manual job of staffing shifts, tracking time off and recording approvals.”

Akira Systems and Vocantas are both Ontario based companies, now partnering to export a joint technology to higher education and healthcare organizations across North America. “Exports are an important contributor to business and economic growth,” said Economic Development and Innovation Minister Brad Duguid. “We continue to work hard at helping Ontario’s innovative firms like Vocantas diversify and expand their market reach globally.”

### **About Vocantas Inc.**

Vocantas develops hosted and premise-based interactive voice response solutions (IVRS) using advanced computer telephony and speech recognition technology to provide businesses and service providers with more efficient outreach capabilities. Vocantas solutions help organizations in the higher education, utilities, healthcare and customer service environments improve outreach and engagement while reducing operating costs. Visit [www.vocantas.com](http://www.vocantas.com) for a free interactive demo of Vocantas solutions that intelligently respond to your customers.

### **About Akira Systems**

How many times have you wished there were more hours in the day? Are you looking for ways to save time and money like so many other companies are? Wouldn't it be nice to be able to have your employees spend less time to accomplish a whole lot more?

With so much to do and so few hours in the day, executives everywhere are realizing just how valuable every second is; time really is money in today's society. Akira Systems has developed a number of products that can help your company save time, increase productivity, and improve work-flows. By becoming more efficient you can take your company to the next level and Akira Systems is here to help you along every step of the way. To learn more about how Akira Systems can help you increase your workforce productivity, please visit [www.akirasystems.com](http://www.akirasystems.com)

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