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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hartford Youth Scholars Foundation Benefits from Donated Telephone System Equipment from DATA-TEL and Vertical

Fairfield, CT, April 25, 2007 — DATA-TEL, and Vertical Communications (VRCC.OB) ("Vertical"), a leading provider of next-generation phone systems and voice applications that help businesses better serve their customers, today announced the donation of a telephone and voice mail system to the Hartford Youth Scholars Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing the number of Hartford students attending college by providing academic enrichment programs which enable them to access Connecticut's finest college preparatory independent high schools. The enhanced telephony system was installed in conjunction with the Foundation's move into its new headquarters.

Vertical which donated the new digital telephone system, digital voice mail and assorted telephone handsets, established this community outreach program as a way to help 501c3 charitable organizations have access to the latest communication technologies. Marketplace success providing Vertical solutions to business enterprises enabled DATA-TEL to join Vertical's President's Club Elite. Membership to this elite club allowed DATA-TEL to nominate a local area charity to receive this one-time equipment donation. Installation and training services were donated by DATA-TEL.

"The growth of our Foundation required us to seek newer office facilities for which we had no communications system," said Tim Goodwin, Executive Director, the Hartford Youth Scholars Foundation. "This generous and much needed system has made it possible for us to operate more productively as an organization as well as allowed us to be in better communication with our scholars and their families. The money we saved from this donated system allows us to keep focused on our organizational mission, which is preparing Hartford's youth for the rigors of independent high school and college."

Joe Distefano, co-owner of DATA-TEL said, "We are honored to come together with the Hartford Youth Scholars Foundation to support their efforts to increase the number of Hartford students who graduate college and help boost self-esteem. As the Foundation continues to expand its services, the new phone system will support the shift towards Internet technologies and handle anticipated future organizational growth."

About The Hartford Youth Scholars Foundation

The Hartford Youth Scholars Foundation (HYSF) was created in 2005 to increase the number of Hartford students who graduate from college. Through our primary academic program, The Steppingstone Academy Hartford, HYSF uses a rigorous and unique approach to achieving this goal. We recruit highly motivated, financially disadvantaged middle school students with grades in the "B"-range, and who have no history of college attendance in their families. This demanding 14-month academic enrichment program is designed to prepare Scholars for Connecticut's top independent schools. While they are in the Academy, and after they go on to high school, HYSF provides Scholars and their families with support services to help them negotiate the challenges of transitioning from an urban environment to an independent preparatory school environment. In this way, HYSF provides a comprehensive approach to education that helps these young people find their way to college. For more information, visit <u>www.hysf.org</u>.

About DATA-TEL

Established in 1994, DATA-TEL is a full-service telecommunications company with business customers located throughout the Connecticut counties of Fairfield, New Haven and Hartford. DATA-TEL offers digital and voice over IP (VoIP) telephone systems, voice mail, T-1, DID, PRI, or other applications. DATA-TEL is a Vertical Authorized Gold Dealer and President's Club Member. For more information DATA-TEL, visit <u>www.datatelct.com</u>.

About Vertical Communications, Inc.

Vertical Communications is one of the largest telephony vendors in North America and a global leader in next-generation IP-based voice and data and digital communications systems for business, with a current installed base of over 200,000 customers. Vertical combines voice and data technologies with business process understanding to deliver integrated IP-PBX and application solutions that enhance customer service and business productivity. Vertical's customers are leading companies of all sizes from small to large and distributed, and include CVS/pharmacy, Staples and Apria Healthcare. Vertical delivers its solutions through a worldwide network of over 1800 business partners. With headquarters in Cambridge MA, Vertical has sales, engineering and operations facilities in Charlottesville VA, Phoenix AZ, Santa Clara CA, Sarasota FL, Munich Germany and Hyderabad India. For more information, visit our Website at www.vertical.com.

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