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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT...

David Merrick
Vice President of Marketing
Vector Security, Inc.
800-222-6565 Ext: 3144
dmerrick@vectorsecurity.com

Anita Long
Marketing Specialist
Vector Security, Inc.
724-779-8810 Ext: 1255
allong@vectorsecurity.com

Certified Security announces strategic business alignment with Vector Security, Inc.

Move is undertaken to further grow the company, provide additional opportunities for Certified Security employees and further enhance the level of service provided to Certified Security's customer base.

December 16, 2009: Pittsburgh, PA: Over the past ten years, Certified Security Systems has grown steadily to become one of Florida's leading electronic security companies, installing over 30,000 systems in a number of Florida markets, including Jacksonville, Tallahassee, Fort Lauderdale and Palm Coast to name a few. But recently, Certified Security co-founders Joe Hassan and John Sheridan took steps to further chart the long-term success of their company by forming a strategic business relationship with Pittsburgh, PA-based Vector Security, Inc. Vector, which ranks seventh by revenue in *SDM Magazine's* Top 100 security companies, has over 30 branch office and dealer program offices in eleven Eastern U.S. states, plus Texas and California. Additionally, Vector serves ninety of the nation's most recognized multi-site retail chains throughout North America. Vector's residential and commercial customer base exceeds 200,000 users.

Hassan and Sheridan are well satisfied with this move, stating: "We are extremely privileged and humbled with the level of success Certified has achieved in its short ten-year existence. Because of this good fortune, we have attracted strategic alignment interests from numerous industry and non-industry companies. Hands down, Vector was the perfect match. Their commitment to excellence in customer service is obvious with the many industry recognitions they receive. But, what the industry may not know is Vector's tremendous commitment to the welfare, advancement, and quality of life for its employees. It is great to know our employees will have opportunities for growth and advancement that most industry companies, including Certified, would never be able to offer. We are extremely excited about this new chapter for Certified and Vector Security."

According to Vector's President and CEO, John A. Murphy, "This strategic alignment with Certified Security Systems enabled Vector to gain a well trained and highly tenured senior management, sales, technical operations and administrative staff as well as additional customer base and office locations. Achieving success in the electronic security industry requires a well-rounded blend of technology, talent and trust. Our alignment with the management of Certified Security Systems, especially Joe and John, allows us to obtain all three assets, and continue successfully serving and expanding its organic customer base. It will further assist growing Vector Security's Authorized Dealer group participants, who operate within Certified's geographic footprint."

Murphy also believes that there is a high degree of similarity between Vector's and Certified's existing customer bases: "Certified has built its customer base in the usual electronic security, fire alarm, video surveillance and access control markets, but the company also shares a number of niche customer types with Vector Security. They include services to more than 17,000 monitored customers in gated residential

communities, regionally based multi-site retailers, home builders and educational facilities. That's the type of synergy we're attracted to when considering an acquisition. It allows us to efficiently build future business opportunities on the complementary customer bases with which we are highly familiar and successful."

All three – Murphy, Hassan and Sheridan – agree that the electronic security industry is perhaps the best example of a "people business," and that's the main driving force of this strategic business alliance. "Our customers rely on us to be there to protect the things they cherish most, including their loved ones, homes, businesses and possessions. That's a relationship that can't be successfully sustained without familiarity and above all, trust," stresses Hassan. "Vector Security's corporate culture has been defined by sticking to these old-time values and customer service traditions which many similar companies have all but forgotten. You may not care if your cell phone company's customer service departments are located in some far off city or even another country or continent, but that does NOT play out well for home and business security." John Sheridan adds that Vector Security is the industry's undisputed leader when it comes to sustaining and improving relationships between its company and responding agencies across the nation. "Vector has maintained a strong commitment to reducing false alarms, while simultaneously improving dispatching communication systems between its company and 911 centers. That's a commitment that no one in the industry, except for Vector, has been able to manage or keep for any defined period of time. Our first responders remain an essential part of the successful protection equation our customers need to rely upon."

Both Joe Hassan and John Sheridan are confident that this new strategic business alliance with Vector Security will allow Certified Security Systems' customers and employees to flourish and feel secure. "When change comes to any security company," cites Joe Hassan, "the first thing customers and employees think of is a change in philosophies that may unfortunately result in a digression in the level of service provided to them. Well, with Vector Security, our philosophies are the exact same about maintaining great customer service."

Under the alignment arrangements, Vector Security will maintain Certified Security Systems' staff of 80 individuals and highly experienced management, who will help lead Vector's new Southern District.

About Vector Security: Vector Security is a leading provider of electronic security services. The company operates over 30 offices throughout the country, providing services through its branch offices, National Accounts Division, Authorized Dealer Services Division, and Vector Security Patrol, which provides guard and patrol services. Vector is owned by The Philadelphia Contributionship, a private insurance company founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1752.

Vector has captured many prestigious industry awards, including the following:

- 2003 – *SDM Magazine* Dealer of the Year
- 2006 – First Police Dispatch Quality (PDQ) Award
- 2006 – False Alarm Reduction Association (FARA) Associate of the Year
- 2006 – *SDM Magazine*/Central Station Alarm Association (CSAA) Central Station of the Year
- 2008 – Frost & Sullivan's North American Commercial Alarm Monitoring Company of the Year
- 2008 – *SDM Magazine*/Central Station Alarm Association (CSAA) Central Station Manager of the Year
- 2009 – *SDM Magazine*/Central Station Alarm Association (CSAA) Central Station Operator of the Year

About Certified Security Systems: Certified Security Systems, LLC was founded in 1999 and provides residential and commercial security, fire alarm, access control and video surveillance systems for customers throughout the Southeastern United States. The company was honored as the 2006 Honeywell National Dealer of the Year, achieved the Honeywell 2008 and 2009 Circle of Excellence Award, the 2008 I Life Safety Award, and the 2009 Marketing Award and has been featured in *SDM Magazine*.