[THE TICKER]

Lots of activity on the distributor front this month, **Voda One** and **Avaya** announced improved financing options for channel partners in their Advance Funding Leasing Program... **Synnex** has been authorized to distribute the Hitachi Data Systems' full line of channel-optimized advanced midrange storage systems... **Tech Data** announced the establishment of it Advanced Infrastructure Solution Division to provide sales-oriented support to VARs... the **Avnet Technology Solutions** group has signed an agreement to distribute Lowry Smart Trac labels with Gen 2 RFID tag inlays... on a related note, **Avnet** also announced a distribution deal with Stratum Global to offer their TagNet RFID solution suite... in order to better serve the federal, state and local markets, **Alternative Technology** has partnered with Utimaco to add Utimaco Safeware to its linecard... finally, **Bell Microproducts** will distribute Zeus Technology's Extensible Traffic Manager (ZXTM) software... news from the vendors includes **Symantec's** announcement that it will acquire Altiris, a provider of IT management software... **Oracle** announces a beefed-up version of its Oracle Accelerate Program that will combine Oracle applications with its partner expertise to present solutions for SMBs and local government... the **IBM Retail Store Solutions Division** is celebrating the 25th anniversary of its Partner Program which currently has over 1,000 members... in the world of digital signage, **StrandVision** has established the Digital Signage Content Developer Program for its customers, installers and resellers in order to ease the process of finding approved graphic designers...

Soucy Communications Group