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Press Release

Product: Patch Manager
Solution: Patch Management
Developer: Ecora
Release: v3.1

Tonbridge, Kent – April 16, 2004

SC Magazine Rates Ecora's Patch Manager as "Best Buy"

Award marks second overall win this month for an "excellent tool."



Ecora Software's Patch Manager 3.1 outclassed nearly a dozen competitive products to earn SC Magazine's coveted "Best Buy" ranking in the publication's "Patching Tools" group test. Writing in his April issue, Editor Eric Doyle notes that Patch Manager earns the rating 'because of its professional approach. The information provided and tests performed on the patches add real value. It is also easy to roll out.'

Ecora's industry-leading solution is the only product to earn the highest, 5-star rating in the magazine's "product features" and "performance" categories. It achieves the same rating in the "Value for the Money" category, as does the only no-cost product in the test.

When assessing Patch Manager, Doyle states flatly, "This is ideal to apply patches quickly and effectively." He also notes, "Patch Manager has an Online Reporting Center that...allows anyone to access patching details in simple report formats."

The SC Magazine rating marks the second time this month that Patch Manager has earned the highest rating among all competitors during head-to-head, feature-to-feature testing conducted by professional trade publications. Earlier, Network Computing magazine, awarded Patch Manager "Editor's Choice" status based on Editor Tony Arendt's citation proclaiming, "Ecora's Patch Manager took our Editor's Choice award based on its rollback capability and interface usability." Arendt also noted Patch Manager's very effective reporting functionality, commenting, "Reporting is such a valuable tool and such an underrated function."

Among the competitors included in the SC Magazine test were products from BigFix, Shavlik, LANDesk Software, Altiris, Patchlink, Configuresoft, Gravity Storm Software, and Microsoft.

In the Network Computing test, Ecora Patch Manager's performance eclipsed that of competitors such as BigFix, PatchLink, St. Bernard, and Gravity Storm. In this test, Patch Manager ranked equal to or better than the competition in the following criteria:

- Ease of use; user-friendly graphical user interface (GUI)
- Group-administration capacity
- Active directory support
- Operational footprint
- Detection accuracy
- Agent/agentless abilities
- Coverage

Editor Arendt also noted that Ecora's Patch Manager is among the few products tested that can "patch anything other than Microsoft platforms." He especially appreciated the attractiveness of Patch Manager's rollback capability, pointing out that "A rollback capability is tops on the wish list for the 600-plus respondents to our reader poll--66 percent consider the feature one of the three most important" functions of any patch solution.

About Ecora

Ecora provides a total configuration management solution that automates multi-platform configuration reporting, change monitoring, and patch management. Ecora's solutions enhance efficiency and reduce the costs associated with IT compliance, business continuity, and vulnerability assessment while providing the means to monitor change and plan for recovery. Ecora supports enterprise platforms from Cisco Systems, IBM/Lotus, Microsoft, Novell, Oracle, HP, IBM, Sun Microsystems, Red Hat, and Citrix.

About Pillar Solutions

Pillar Solutions are the main distributor of Ecora Patch Manager in the UK. Founded in 1993, Pillar Solutions are a leading European distributor of software tools for Windows and are currently based in Tonbridge, Kent, overlooking the 900 year old castle.

Pillar Solutions commitment to quality products and superior technical support are key contributors to their company's rapid growth. Not only do they offer a high level of technical support, consultancy and training, but they also work very closely with their developers as their sales and support arm to provide a robust and scalable solution. Pillar Solutions specialise in a handful of best of breed products and boast a high level of customer service with a personal touch.

For more information, contact us on 01732 363670 or by email at sales@pillar-solutions.com

To download a free trial version of Patch Manager, visit www.pillar-solutions.com