

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Apigent Solutions Launches the Apigent Challenge**

*Apigent proves value of ZEOM.net™ through ROI analysis opportunity*

**OKLAHOMA CITY** - (March 15, 2001) Apigent Solutions™, an application service provider (ASP) to the restaurant industry, introduced the Apigent Challenge today—an opportunity for multi-unit operators to use and evaluate the ZEOM.net™ management service prior to purchasing system components and signing long-term contracts.

ZEOM.net, an enterprise operations information service offered by Apigent Solutions, enables multi-unit operators to more effectively manage their business by delivering real-time, actionable operations information throughout the enterprise. Designed for corporate, field and site managers, ZEOM.net provides tactical information to make operational decisions and alerts management to problems such as overstaffing, slow speed of service, HACCP violations, and too much cash in the register.

With ZEOM.net, corporate, field, and site managers receive alerts when operating standards are violated via their computer or any wireless device, including mobile phones, pagers

or PDAs. According to Jim Melvin, Apigent CEO, the information received “produces managers who make better decisions and take more effective action. These real-time improvements in performance pay back at the bottom line.”

To prove ZEOM.net’s effectiveness, Apigent is offering an opportunity for organizations to evaluate its return on investment—without requiring operators to enroll in a long-term contract or purchase costly equipment. The Apigent Challenge is a packaged ROI study opportunity that includes a 60-day rollout of ZEOM.net functionality and a customer-specific cost-benefit analysis at the end.

Designed for small to medium sized chains and limited to one district (6-8 stores), the Apigent Challenge includes Internet-based sales reporting and alerts using point-of-sale and video camera feeds from the store. In addition, the study offers a unique video storyboarding feature that cross-references certain types of sales transactions, such as no sales and voids, with video clips in support of loss prevention initiatives. Information is accessed through a browser-based portal that includes reports, alerts, e-mail, calendar, tasks, and a searchable document database for the customer’s training materials, policy manuals, human resource and other enterprise-wide content.

At the end of the 60-day period, Apigent conducts a cost-benefit analysis based on customer-specific issues and data gathered during the Challenge. Through the Apigent Challenge, operators can see how ZEOM.net can streamline the enterprise, increase ROI and help them manage their business.

*For more information or to participate in the Apigent Challenge, visit the Apigent Web site at [www.apigent.com](http://www.apigent.com) or contact the company at 800/664-8228.*

**ABOUT APIGENT SOLUTIONS**

One of Sun Microsystems' Elite Plus service providers, Apigent Solutions is the creator of products and services that help multiunit operators transform raw data into actionable information they can use to more effectively manage their business. Apigent offers a variety of innovative technologies, including the ZEOM.net™ operations information service, centrally hosted back office applications and the IntelliKitchen® kitchen management system. The company originated as the technology development subsidiary of Chickasaw Holding Company, a \$200 million telecommunications company with nearly 150,000 customers in more than 30 states. Chickasaw remains a major shareholder in Apigent.

The ZEOM.net sales/service number is 800-664-8228. Or, for more information about Apigent Solutions, visit the company's Web site at <http://www.apigent.com>.

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