

# **Sage Software, Inc. Extends MAS 500 with Microsoft Visual Studio .NET**

## ***Microsoft's .NET Platform Enhances Already Flexible MAS 500***

**Irvine, CA - February 14, 2002** - Sage Software, Inc., a leading provider of business management solutions, announced its use of Microsoft Visual Studio .NET for MAS 500, a flexible, scalable and full-featured e-business management solution.

Sage has made a seven-year commitment to building the MAS 500 product line using earlier versions of Microsoft Visual Basic .NET. Sage chose the Microsoft .NET platform based upon its ability to extend Sage's reach beyond current approaches to client server and Web development, and because the platform provides a stronger foundation for interoperability, extensibility and integration. By continuing with Microsoft Visual Basic .NET, a cornerstone language in Visual Studio .NET, MAS 500 customers are assured a smooth transition to the Microsoft .NET platform.

Sage resellers applaud the move. The customization capabilities within MAS 500 allows channel partners to leverage their Microsoft Visual Basic skills to extend the application's feature set and integrate other internal systems to meet customer requirements.

"We chose MAS 500 as our preferred application in large part due to the technology platform direction Sage Software chose with Microsoft Visual Studio .NET," says Greg Archambault, president of Weymouth, Mass.-based BHE Consulting, Inc. "It's good to see that investment extended with Microsoft Visual Basic .NET."

Microsoft, too, sees the potential synergy that could be created.

"We're pleased to see Sage again taking advantage of and adapting Microsoft development platforms to create and extend mid-market business applications," notes John Montgomery, group product manager for the Developer and Platform Evangelism Division at Microsoft Corp. "Our longstanding technology relationship, especially Sage's ongoing commitment to Visual Basic .NET, will continue to create mutually beneficial business opportunities."

MAS 500 is suitable for companies with more than 20 employees, and is available through authorized Sage solution providers.

### **About Sage Software, Inc.**

Sage Software, Inc., is a leading provider of integrated accounting, business management, HR/payroll and fixed asset solutions for mid-sized companies in North America. Sage provides critical business insights for bottom-line decision making through a full range of easy-to-use, scalable and customizable applications, including Abra, MAS 90, MAS 200, MAS 500, FAS, BusinessWorks and Platinum for Windows by Sage. Known for outstanding customer support, Sage has been honored with five STAR (Software Technical Assistance Recognition) Awards from the Service & Support Professionals Association over the past five years, and certified by the Support Center Practices program for the past four. Sage Software, Inc. is a subsidiary of The Sage Group plc, the world's leading provider of business management software for mid-sized companies, with sales of \$630 million and more than 2.7 million customers worldwide. Other U.S. subsidiaries include Interact Commerce Corporation, Micro Information Products and Peachtree Software, comprising the software industry's most comprehensive portfolio of small to mid-sized business solutions.

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