Situation
Personal Information Management (PIM) means managing personal contact and address books as well as corporate data on a daily basis either in the office or on the road. Mobile devices such as PDAs or mobile phones do offer address books and calendar at any time and any place, but they introduce a new problem: the need for simple and reliable remote synchronization of the mobile device with personal or corporate data. Traditional solutions to this problem depend on cables or infrared connections to desktop PCs and do not allow remote or wireless synchronization.

Sun Microsystems and Weblicon have solved this problem. The PIM-SyncML solution consists of highly scalable, proven and stable hardware- and software building blocks from Sun Microsystems and the SyncML-based synchronization server from Weblicon AG. By combining the synchronization server with proven Sun Netra, Sun Fire, Cobalt or LX 50 servers, the solution can be tailored for corporates or service providers of any scale. The offering is completed with services for integration, customisation and maintenance of the entire solution.

With the Sun Mobile Office Solution for PIM Synchronization, Sun and Weblicon offer remote and wireless synchronization of mobile devices for corporates and carriers.
For corporates, the solution provides the following advantages:

- Using open industry standards throughout the entire communication chain from mobile device to server removes dependency on proprietary solutions.
- PDAs based on Palm OS or PocketPC can be integrated with backend server systems.
- Notebooks and PCs using Microsoft Outlook or Outlook Express desktop PIM software can be seamlessly integrated with industry standard backed systems. The actual endusers maintain their familiar user interface which means no additional training costs are required for adoption of the solution.
- The proven Sun servers in the backend allow a step-by-step introduction of the solution, which can be scaled both horizontally and vertically. The consolidation of server systems to the reliable server architecture of Sun Microsystems help lower the administration costs and reduce the TCO of the overall solution.
- The consistent usage of open industry standards such as LDAP, WCAP, JNDI or IMAP4 allow a flexible and individual customisation matching the requirements of the organization.
- The seamless synchronization of address books and calendars increases the efficiency of the entire workforce by delivering a user-friendly solution.
- Synchronization of mobile devices is supported any where, any time and with any device, using wireless networks such as GSM or GPRS as well as tethered connections or infrared connections to PCs in the Intranet.
- Continuous synchronization of personal information allows a more efficient collaboration between and office workers and the field sales force resulting in lower costs and optimised workflow.

Carriers and service providers can use the solution to offer new services for private and corporate users:

- Synchronization of personal and corporate data with mobile devices.
- Newer mobile phones supporting the SyncML standard can be seamlessly integrated and become more attractive resulting in additional sales of mobile phones.
- Using this solution, carriers can integrate PDAs and PCs with their service extending the reach into the corporate world.
- Wireless synchronization increases the “airtime” or “traffic” in mobile networks increasing the average revenue per user (ARPU).
- Carriers can differentiate by offering innovative solutions matching the need of the customer.
- The broad support for devices from multiple brands increase the number of choices and thus the attraction of the service.
- The entire user interface can be customized to match the corporate identity of the carrier transporting the brand to the user’s desktop.
- The multi-access architecture via multiple devices and web browsers supports parallel usage of wireless and wireline access.
- Java-enabled mobile phones can be integrated with a J2ME application (Midlet) supporting local storage and SyncML synchronization.
- The Sun hardware and the Sun ONE server software provides a stable operating environment and massive scalability.
The Solution

This solution supports virtually any device such as PCs using Microsoft Outlook or Outlook Express, Palm PDAs, PocketPC PDAs, SyncML-enabled mobile phones, as well as web browsers and Java applications synchronizing personal information in heterogeneous environments. The synchronization is based entirely on the open industry standard “SyncML”, which is supported by more and more devices from various vendors. The server side uses open standards such as LDAP, IMAP4, JNDI and WCAP as well as the Sun ONE software components such as the Sun ONE Directory Server, Sun ONE Messaging Server, Sun ONE Calendaring Server and Sun ONE Application Server.

Why Sun?

The solution using Sun hardware, Sun ONE and Weblicon software allows for the first time to overcome proprietary solutions for PocketPC PDAs integrating with open and highly scalable backend systems. In addition, mobile devices are integrated into the end-to-end service chain synchronizing address books, calendars and tasks “over-the-air”. Sun delivers innovative products, technologies and services for the Net-Economy. Sun supports corporations worldwide with the implementation of powerful networked IT-infrastructures and helps to make the
network a robust backbone of mission-critical business processes.

Sun Microsystems, Inc. was founded in 1982 in Silicon Valley (USA). From the very beginning, network computing was the foundation of the corporate philosophy building powerful networked computer systems based on open industry standards. “The Network is The Computer” has been Sun’s claim for several years and is finally becoming reality in the industry: Network Computing is the new form of Information Management.

Sun ONE (Open Network Environment)
Sun ONE stands for vision, architecture and platform expertise of Sun developing and delivering services on demand. Using Sun ONE, software services can be developed realizing the full potential of XML, LDAP Directories, the java platform and other open industry standards. Sun Microsystems offers everything required to build intelligent Webservices from Service Creating to Service Assembly, Service Deployment and Professional Services.

Why Weblicon?
Weblicon Technologies AG is a pure technology provider focused on Personal Information Management (PIM) and Synchronization software for corporates and carriers. The Weblicon product development is based entirely on open standards such as Java, J2EE, SyncML and WCAP. Weblicon is an active member of the Open Mobile Alliance (OMA) and has achieved official SyncML certification of its SyncML Server as one of the first companies. The Weblicon SyncML Server has been proven in live operation of leading carriers such as Mobilkom Austria using the Weblicon SyncML Server in combination with the Sun ONE Calendar and Messaging Server.