



# Press Release

September 2008  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Empower finds support in the UK

September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008, Northwich, Cheshire, UK. Kane Computing Ltd (KCL) today announced they have signed a distribution agreement with Empower Technologies to sell and support their high performance TI DaVinci based development kits and single board computers in the UK and Ireland.

The EDK (Empower Development Kit) replaces the successful LDK (LEOs Development Kit) series. The existing LDK591x series will continue to be available. The first in the EDK series is the EDK6446 development kit for Texas Instruments' (TI) dual-core TMS320DM6446, DM6443, and DM6441 DaVinci™ technology processors. The EDK6446 will help designers accelerate the development of digital video applications such as portable media players, set top-boxes, industrial handheld/tablets, video security and surveillance, automotive infotainment systems and video telephony.

The EDK6446 development kit is a major revision to replace the current LDK6446, which was released in August 2007. The biggest advance in the EDK6446 is the high integration and significant downsizing of the target system board when compared with the LDK6446. The target system board with the resulting small footprint is also sold separately as a Single Board Computer (SBC) under the model names SBC6446, SBC6443, and SBC6441.

Developers creating applications using the EDK can fast track volume product manufacturing by purchasing the SBC directly from Empower with the operating software onboard. LEOs (Linux Embedded Operating System), Empower's core technology, is the standard operating software bundled in every development kit. The new EDK will now support other popular embedded operating systems. Also fully supported in the EDK6446 are TI's framework components, which include the eXpressDSP™ Algorithm Interoperability Standard (xDAIS) for Digital Media (xDM) Framework Components and Codec Engine. Additionally, DaVinci audio and video codecs are available for licensing.

The new EDK6446 development kit comes with the latest LEOs operating software (Linux Kernel 2.6) and SDK (Software Development Kit). The target hardware development platform includes a DM6446 processor system board and a 4.3" touch panel LCD (480x272) ready for 16:9 widescreen movie presentations in landscape mode.

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EDK6446 and LEOs for DM644x DaVinci processors are made specifically for media devices in the portable, set top-box, and telemetric applications. The video processing power enabled by the C64x+ DSP core in the DM644x provides major technical advantages in video/audio encoding/decoding, video analytic and sound processing. For developers or manufacturers creating new applications in the fields of industrial handheld/tablets, security surveillance, wired/wireless media streaming, infotainment system in vehicles, portable navigation, and video telephony, EDK6446 and the SBC644x are solutions that can expedite their product development and fast track their product deployment into the field.

Working alongside Texas Instruments (TI), Empower Technologies has developed LEOs® (Linux Embedded Operating System) configured for TI's C64xx processor. The versatility of LEOs® and the power of DaVinci initiate a new level of performance.

The Linux based operating system provides distinctive advantages over other operating systems. The Linux kernel is small and powerful. Linux® is reliable and robust. It is supported by a large Linux® community. Furthermore, Linux® kernel is free under the General Public License (GPL). The most remarkable advantage of the embedded version of LEOs® is its ability to scale. It also offers an embedded BIOS, which includes a boot loader to initialize hardware devices, to integrate peripherals and to assign memory mapping for applications. LEOs® includes both the Linux® kernel and LEOs®' proprietary software. Device drivers, as well as Empower Technologies' proprietary graphical user interface(GUI), are available to set up the hardware devices and peripherals in a standard Linux® platform.

Richard White, Managing Director of KCL was very pleased to have secured this new partnership. "We have been in the DSP development systems business for a long time and it is great to find a company who understand the need for engineers to be able to move from development to production using the same hardware. User have also been looking for an efficient operating system tailored to run in the ARM core of the DaVinci C64xx family. LEOs®, Empower's LinuxDA Embedded Operating System provides this".

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"We are exceptionally pleased in the selection of Kane Computing, in that both our companies specialize in image processing, DSP and high performance computing products. Their line card is extremely synergistic making a perfect match" said Empower CEO and President Paul Leung. He added that he is particularly excited about the level of support that Kane Computing offers- especially for a distributor. "They are not merely a stocking distributor - they offer full service capabilities as if they were the manufacturers themselves. We are looking forward to working with them closely and opening the European market for us."

### **About Empower Technologies™**

Founded in 2000, Empower Technologies (TSX.V: EPT) is an innovative company that brings the power and flexibility of the LEOs® (LinuxDA™ Embedded Operating System) to the dynamic embedded computing Industry and the emerging Intelligent Appliance Market, through their development of Linux-based operating software, embedded system technologies and solutions.

The products and services that form the base of its business activities include an embedded system development platform for LEOs®, based on Texas Instruments™ embedded CPU platform, that fulfill the needs and demands of developers and the embedded computing Industry. Empower is continuing to develop LEOs® and newer versions of embedded CPUs in line with Texas Instruments™.

By uniting top professionals from within the computer industry and developing quality partnerships and strategic alliances, Empower is committed to being the leading developer of Linux-based operating software and embedded system technologies and solutions for electronics manufacturers and developers.

### **About Kane Computing Ltd.**

KCL ([www.kanecomputing.co.uk](http://www.kanecomputing.co.uk)) has been providing Image Processing, DSP and high performance computing products for use in industry, education and research since 1987. KCL has extensive knowledge and experience of providing video compression solutions for many industries particularly for digital video security and high quality broadcast applications. KCL has a policy of continual improvement and operates its business in accordance with the requirements of ISO9001:2000. KCL is also approved under the Investors in People programme.

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