

Ahkun Introduces Remote Productivity Management Software to the US

Establishes US office in Silicon Valley to support new venture

August x, 2011 – San Jose and Tokyo – Remote Productivity Management is coming to the US, courtesy of Japanese software developer Ahkun. Ideal for businesses where workers frequently telecommute as well as for organizations with large field sales forces or agents, Ahkun AutoDaily provides daily insight into how distributed workforces invest their time during the workday.

Today more than ever, businesses are seeking to cut costs wherever they can. One of the most effective ways to reduce costs is to reduce office overheads by allowing staff to work from their homes some or all of the time. The biggest limiting factor preventing organization from taking this step is the nagging suspicion that employees are “goofing off”, spending company time in the garden or on the golf course instead of working. Data security, compliance, and misuse of company hardware and software assets are also concerns when workers are outside of the more structured and supervised office environment.

“A light bulb went off in my head when I first learned about Ahkun AutoDaily”, says Jim Leonard, General Manager of Ahkun USA. “I vividly recall, when I was managing a team of field reps, I paid a surprise visit to one sales rep and found he was working an entire second job on my company’s time. AutoDaily is designed to ensure this kind of situation doesn’t happen and that employees deliver value to the business that’s invested in them.”

About Ahkun AutoDaily

AutoDaily is a small software program that automatically creates PC work reports, helping to streamline operations and audit applications to optimize business efficiency. In addition, AutoDaily saves valuable time by automating activity reports – the bane of many remote workers’ lives; reports are generated in the background and emailed automatically to pre-specified email addresses.

AutoDaily extends the concept of productivity management into document security management, making use of Ahkun’s many years of experience in the information security business. Watermarks can be automatically inserted in documents to be printed to discourage the misuse of those documents; in the event a protected document is leaked, an audit trail can be created from log information including who printed the document and where.

Ahkun AutoDaily’s remote productivity management enables a balanced approach to remote user activity management:

- Automatically creates work reports and submits them by email to designated individuals, saving businesses time and weeding out faked reports
- Gathers logs for active PC operations, reducing stress on both managers and users
- Does not require dedicated software or hardware
- Prevents information leakage through paper documents with printer logs and watermarks
- Preserves employee privacy with three selectable levels of content detail

Daily log reports cover:

- PC usage time (active operation)
- Application usage times
 - Use of unauthorized applications
 - Use of non-business applications
- For screens: Application name/File name/Window title
- For printed documents: Application name/File name/Printer name/ Watermarking

All report transmissions are encrypted for privacy protection. An existing web server can be used to distribute schedules and policy to endpoints and maintain appropriate configurations.

Ahkun Autodaily runs under Windows 7, Vista (32-bit/64 bit version), Windows XP / 2000 (32-bit version), Windows Server 2008 / 2003 (32-bit version), Windows 2000 Server (32-bit version), and Windows Terminal Service, Citrix 4.5 or higher. The software is available in English, Chinese, and Japanese.

US Operations

Ahkun US is the company's first expansion outside Japan, and is being established to focus efforts around the new concept of remote productivity management. The office will initially be staffed by Jim Leonard as General Manager for North America, with fellow security industry veteran Pat Bitton handling marketing, communications, and web-based activities.

Says Ahkun founder and executive chairman Akira Watanabe "I've known both Jim and Pat for many years and we have an existing relationship of trust. Our mutual background in the information security business means that we share a similar business ethic, and I am confident they are the right people to build Ahkun's first business outside Japan."

About Ahkun

Ahkun was established in 2001 by former Trend Micro executive Akira Watanabe and has positioned itself in the Japanese information technology market as a specialized professional security service provider. The company has developed customized local solutions of leading US security software such as early anti-spyware success story PestPatrol (acquired by CA) and current offerings include both personal and corporate solutions developed in cooperation with Korean security specialists VisionPower. AutoDaily is the company's first wholly-owned software development.