



AUSSIE HOUSEHOLDS CAN NOW SAVE MORE THAN \$500 PER YEAR OFF THEIR PHONE BILL

Low-cost phone calls over the Internet – an alternative to fixed line phone charges

Sydney, Australia, 2nd December 2004 – Aussie households can save on average more than \$500 per year off their fixed-line phone bill via low cost phone calls over the Internet using Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology. The findings come from a new report published by www.phonechoice.com.au – an Australian web site that provides independent advice on the Australian telecommunications industry.

The www.phonechoice.com.au report compares the costs of using *engin Voice Box* VoIP technology and Telstra and Optus plans over 12 months for households and small business users. The report also looks at the plan price differences in relation to fixed costs and untimed local, STD, international and fixed to mobile call rates.

In terms of call costs, the average household would save \$425.20 (36.5%) when compared to Telstra and \$366.01 (33.1%) compared to Optus over the first 12 months. On an unlimited plan the data charge would not be incurred so household savings would rise to more than \$500. In a similar comparison, the average business would save \$474.54 (31.5%) when compared to Telstra and \$176.60 (14.6%) compared to Optus over the first 12 months.

engin Voice Box, the first Australian broadband telephony service to hit major retailers, allows people to make calls to, and receive calls from any landline or mobile phone over their broadband Internet connection using Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology.

“*engin Voice Box* allows people to stay in touch with friends, family and business colleagues locally, nationally and internationally – and at the same time slash hundreds of dollars per year off their phone bill. We’re very excited to be able to offer

low cost phone calls over the Internet and a service that takes the challenge right up to traditional fixed-line competitors,” said Ilkka Tales, Chief Executive Officer, *engin*.

VoIP has until now been mainly used in a business environment, but with approximately 1.2 million broadband connections across Australia, the *engin Voice Box* can now assist households and SOHOs to significantly reduce the total cost of ownership of their phone plans.

These and other findings and the report methodology are now available at www.engin.com.au.

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About engin

engin is a business within Mobile Innovations Limited (MOB), offering the first broadband telephony service to be broadly available to Australian consumers on the shelves of major retailers. engin is headquartered in Sydney, Australia and has more than 85 staff. engin was granted its telecommunications carrier license in March 2004 to deliver a digital voice service across existing broadband connections. engin offers three products in the *engin* suite: *engin Voice Box*, *engin X-Pro* and *engin X-Lite* all of which provide affordable telecommunication alternatives to Australian consumers. For more information, please visit www.engin.com.au.

About Phonechoice.com.au

Phonechoice is a FREE website with a program that can select the best phone plan to suit every individual's needs. www.phonechoice.com.au is the only Australian website that provides free independent, unbiased solutions based on the 1,000 different offers made by the Telecommunication industry including Telstra, Optus, Vodafone, Hutchison and AAPT. Phonechoice creates transparency in an industry which has traditionally been incredibly confusing.

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