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For Immediate Release

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Softing Fully Committed to OPC UA with Toolkits, Servers, End-User Tools, Training

Boston – June 27, 2006 – Softing, a leading supplier of industrial communication technology and OPC specialist, announces its full support of the OPC Unified Architecture for all three of its OPC product families – toolkits, servers, and end-user tools:

- Softing's OPC Toolbox, a comprehensive suite of toolkits for the development of high performance OPC client and servers for Windows, Windows CE, Linux, and other embedded operating systems, will soon be extended with OPC UA functionality. Providing a fast and easy upgrade path for Softing's 1,000+ OPC Toolbox customers to the new Unified Architecture is a high priority goal. The first toolkits with UA support will become available at the beginning of 2007.
- Softing's industrial OPC servers (Modbus/TCP, Siemens S5/S7 PLCs, PROFIBUS, etc.) have been developed with the Softing OPC Toolbox. With the upgrade to the new OPC UA server toolkit, all of Softing's off-the-shelf OPC servers will fully support OPC UA.
- The next version of Softing's OPC Connector Tools will support OPC UA and help the OPC user to easily and quickly integrate existing OPC products into the new world of the OPC Unified Architecture. Softing's OPC Connector Tools are a set of tools designed to assist end-users to commission and operate OPC clients and servers in projects. They simplify and optimize the setup and use of OPC clients and servers in complex network architectures. They help to combine different OPC-enabled products and to provide solutions where currently there are none. Examples are OPC Client-to-Client connections, OPC Filters, OPC communication through firewalls and across the Internet, etc.

Softing is also extending its OPC training program. In the past ten years, Softing has hosted several thousand people at its OPC events for decision makers, end-users, or developers. Beginning this summer, Softing will begin offering a two-day developer course for the OPC Unified Architecture. This class will help manufacturers to design and implement OPC UA clients and servers into their products and to define concepts on how to best migrate existing DCOM OPC servers to the Unified Architecture.

Softing's renowned book *OPC Fundamentals, Implementation, and Application* is available in its third edition, containing one chapter on the OPC Unified Architecture. This OPC book for developers, students, and automation experts, is the international standard reference on OPC with more than 7,500 copies sold in its first and second editions.

For additional product information:

www.softing.us or <http://www.softing.com/en/communications/products/opc.htm>