

## **Finnova steps into the future with Java and Microsoft**

**Lenzburg, 15 December 2010 – In keeping with its open architecture approach, Finnova has decided to let its over 90 banks choose between front-end technologies.**

Finnova's modular integrated banking solution is currently based on Oracle, PL/SQL and Java. With the latest decision in favour of Microsoft technology, Finnova will be offering another forward-looking user interface design technology in parallel with Java. By 2012 at latest, the Finnova community – over ninety banks at present – will be able to choose from multiple front-end technologies.

The decision in favour of new technology reflects an even more distinct decoupling of the user front end from the software core, and hence a further slimming-down of the graphical user interface. Although the present GUI accounts for only about 15 percent of the Finnova code base, this figure is set to decrease even further. In future, the user interface will only be responsible for rendering – the graphical representation of data on display screens. This approach makes Finnova yet more responsive to the continually changing requirements of the market: with user interfaces in particular, studies have revealed an accelerating cycle of change in graphics, engineering and functionality-related technologies. So in Finnova's view, keeping the front end as lean as possible is key to staying responsive and cost-effective under these circumstances.

### **Maximum openness, minimum interdependence**

By adding Microsoft technology to continued support for Java and by slimming-down the front end, Finnova is doing more than following current trends. The company is paving the way for integrating other technologies as well. "Right now, it is hard to predict where things are going, so we want to keep all our technological options open – also in the long term", says Peter Stalder, Finnova's Head of Engineering. "Our decision is primarily a commitment to the openness of our software and Microsoft simply offers the most attractive supplement to Java at the moment." Stalder also points out that one winning point in Microsoft's favour was the capability to create both .NET and Silverlight clients. With these additional technologies on board, banks will be free to choose between three options that differ visually, but provide the same functionality. In addition, minimising dependence on any one technology results in maximum flexibility to address upcoming developments. So any future changes of technology will only require adapting the renderer, or specific elements within it. Stalder views this slimming-down of the front end as a logical forward step along a course that was established long ago. In his assessment, the real revolution is the integration of an additional technology. The signs have long pointed toward an entirely new front end for Finnova, and the idea of offering multiple solutions emerged in the course of discussion. "We asked why we should commit ourselves to a technology now, when it would be feasible to remain open to all foreseeable technologies in future."

### **New technology available in 2012**

Finnova has set itself a highly ambitious timetable for implementing the new technology. The first version of the new .NET-based Finnova user interface is slated to be available to banks by the second quarter of 2012. This tight schedule will ensure a reduced-to-the-max solution. The new GUI will also offer the banks more direct support and user help resources; learning to use Finnova will become easier still. While the current Java interface was built on purely functional criteria, the Microsoft version will offer a more personal touch and be geared toward the needs of front offices. This technology decision will give banks the option of deploying Finnova with different user interfaces appropriate to their respective operational areas.

**About Finnova AG**

Finnova has more than 30 years' experience developing banking software. The modular integrated banking solution known as Finnova, which also has a heritage in private banking, was completed in 2003. The 280 people who work for the software house have broad-based know-how and extensive experience with designing and implementing progressive banking software. At the present count, more than 90 financial institutions have placed their trust in the complete integrated solution, or individual Finnova modules. [www.finnova.ch](http://www.finnova.ch)

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