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POWERLOCK™ AUTO THEFT DETERRENT SYSTEM MEETS ANTI-THEFT STANDARD

TORONTO, July 13, 2001 - The Vehicle Information Centre of Canada (VICC) announced today that the PowerLock-Canada anti-theft system manufactured by California-based Ultimate Security Systems Corp. meets the requirements of its Canadian auto theft deterrent standard.

"We're delighted that VICC's testing shows that our PowerLock-Canada vehicle anti-theft system meets the high standards set by the Canadian insurance industry for these devices," said James Cooper, C.E.O. of Ultimate Security Systems Corp. "We look forward to distributing the product across Canada in the next few months."

VICC's auto theft deterrent standard, the first its kind in North America, sets a minimum level of security for cars and light trucks, and applies to both original equipment installed by the manufacturer and aftermarket systems, such as PowerLock-Canada, which are installed outside of the factory. The standard calls for the use of an electronic immobilizer, or electronic anti-theft device, which activates automatically when a vehicle is shut down and prevents it from being started and driven away.

"An electronic immobilizer reduces the number of thefts because it cuts three vital circuits: the starter, ignition and fuel supply. No one can start the vehicle without a special key or code," said Henning Norup, President and COO OF VICC. "Until we developed this standard, consumers had no way of knowing the effectiveness of the hundreds of anti-theft devices on the market. Now they know that systems like PowerLock-Canada meet the standards set by the insurance industry."

VICC developed the auto theft deterrent standard in 1998 with the support of insurance companies, automobile manufacturers, consumers, police, security system manufacturers and Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada. Since last year, VICC has recognized the immobilizing systems produced by DaimlerChrysler, Ford, General Motors, Honda, Jaguar, Mercedes-Benz, Nissan, Toyota and Volvo as meeting its auto theft deterrent standard.

"Today, about 40 per cent of all new cars sold in Canada are equipped with anti-theft systems approved by VICC," said Mr. Norup. "We have already recognized two additional aftermarket systems, Autowatch 329Ti from PFK Electronics, and Magtec 6000 from Magtec Products."

A companion standard was developed in 1999 to ensure the correct installation of aftermarket theft deterrent systems. Several installation facilities across Canada are registered by VICC as meeting the requirements of the standard. "Our goal is to expand the number of installation facilities and auto theft deterrent systems that meet the requirements of the standards," said Mr. Norup. More information about VICC's theft deterrent program is available at www.vicc.com Additional information about the Powerlock-Canada system is available at www.powerlock.com.

VICC, operating within the Insurance Bureau of Canada's Insurance Information Division, was founded by Canada's auto insurance industry to analyze the costs associated with insuring different models of cars. Today, VICC provides a range of products and services to its members, which collectively represent almost 100 per cent of the car insurance sold in Canada.

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