

**Avocent Announces New President and CEO; Founder Steve Thornton to Remain as Chairman**

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HUNTSVILLE, Ala., March 4 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ --

Avocent Corporation (Nasdaq: AVCT) today announced that John R. Cooper has been named President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. Mr. Cooper succeeds Stephen F. Thornton, who held these positions in Avocent and one of its predecessor companies, Cybex Computer Products Corporation. Mr. Thornton will continue to serve as Chairman of the Board of Avocent Corporation.

Mr. Cooper (age 54) has served as a member of Avocent's Board of Directors since its formation by the merger of Cybex Computer Products Corp and Apex Inc. in July 2000, and served as a member of Cybex's Board of Directors since 1998. Mr. Cooper formerly served as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of ADTRAN, Inc. (Nasdaq: ADTN), a manufacturer of telecommunications products, which he joined in 1996. Prior to joining Adtran, he was a managing partner of the Birmingham office of Coopers & Lybrand LLP.

"I take great pleasure in turning over the CEO position to John Cooper," stated Stephen F. Thornton, Chairman of the Board of Avocent Corporation. "John's successful business career and his close working relationship with Avocent were significant factors in his selection as the new President and CEO by the Compensation Committee, which coordinated the search for my replacement. We believe his knowledge of Avocent and his background in technology will be important factors in his success in this new role.

"I have full confidence in John's ability to lead Avocent based on our association over the past 10 years. My respect for his business acumen and personal integrity has grown throughout that period. I plan to support John in his new role and plan to remain active as Avocent's Chairman of the Board," continued Mr. Thornton.

Commenting on the appointment, Edwin L. Harper, a member of Avocent's Board of Directors, Chairman of the Company's Compensation Committee, and former Apex Board member, stated, "I am pleased that John Cooper is joining Avocent as our new President and CEO. I have worked with John as a fellow Avocent Board member, and he has been a strong contributor to the Company in many areas and has an excellent reputation with investors. I am very enthusiastic about Avocent's future growth opportunities under his leadership.

"I also want to thank Steve Thornton for his leadership at Avocent," continued Mr. Harper. "As the founding CEO of Cybex, he has tremendous experience in the industry and has a string of records that would be enviable in any industry. We are pleased that Steve is remaining as Chairman of Avocent and look forward to his continued counsel and support of John as our new CEO."

Conference Call Information

Avocent will hold a conference call today at 3:30 p.m. Central time to introduce John Cooper as the Company's new president and chief executive officer. The Company will provide an on-line, real-time Web-cast and rebroadcast of the conference call at www.avocent.com under the investor relations tab and at www.videonewswire.com. The on-line replay will follow immediately and continue for 30 days.

About Avocent Corporation

Avocent Corporation is the leading supplier of connectivity solutions for enterprise data centers, service providers, and financial institutions worldwide. Branded products include switching, extension, remote access, and video display solutions. Additional information is available at: www.avocent.com

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains statements that are forward-looking statements as defined within the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These include statements regarding future growth of the Company. These forward- looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the statements made, including the risks associated with general economic conditions, risks attributable to future product demand, sales, and expenses, risks associated with product design efforts, and the risks associated with obtaining and protecting intellectual property rights. Other factors that could cause operating and financial results to differ are described in Avocent's annual report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 27, 2001. Other risks may be detailed from time to time in reports to be filed with the SEC. Avocent does not undertake any obligation to publicly update its forward-looking statements based on events or circumstances after the date hereof.

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