

Santa Rosa company Autonet Mobile sells technology to Lear Corporation

Santa Rosa, August 20, 2015 – Autonet Mobile, a Santa Rosa company that develops devices and software to connect cars to the Internet, has sold its technology to Michigan auto parts giant Lear Corporation.

As part of the deal, Lear hired an undisclosed number of Autonet Mobile’s engineering and research and development workers. The company had about 40 employees before the sale.

“I’m now a Lear employee,” Autonet Mobile co-founder Doug Moeller said Thursday. His new title is vice president of connectivity for Lear.

Moeller and his team will remain in Santa Rosa, with plans to expand the staff.

As part of the agreement announced this week, Lear acquired technology that uses cellular networks to connect on-board vehicle systems with cloud-based applications.

The connected cars offer new services to drivers and passengers and allow automakers to collect vast amounts of performance data.

Financial terms were not disclosed. Autonet Mobile will continue to use the technology it sold to Lear to support programs with existing customers and to develop new products for the automotive aftermarket, under a license agreement.

Autonet Mobile’s new platform will be focused on dealer-to-vehicle and dealer-to-consumer communications, including new applications that monitor critical components of the vehicle in real time.

“Autonet Mobile now has the resources to further develop its products, strategy and management team to capitalize on the rapidly emerging automotive connectivity market at the consumer and dealer level,” Autonet Chairman Roy Vallee said in a statement.

Based in Southfield, Mich., Lear supplies car seats and electrical distribution systems to every major automaker in the world.

The company, which employs 135,000 workers in 35 countries, posted \$17.7 billion in sales last year.

Among the areas that Moeller and coworkers will focus on for Lear are ways to bolster security to prevent hackers from gaining access to the car’s computing systems.



About Autonet Mobile, Inc.

Autonet Mobile is the world's first in-car Internet service provider. Founded by a corporate executive and former racecar driver and a leading network architect and designer, the company is dedicated to enhancing the in-car experience by bringing the power of the Internet to the 250+ million cars on the road in the U.S. For more information about Autonet Mobile, visit autonetmobile.com

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