

## SofTechnics Implementing Perpetual Inventory and Computer Automated Ordering in Spartan Stores

**December 2, 2008 -- Akron, OH --** SofTechnics, a leading provider of integrated retail enterprise software solutions, announced today that Spartan Stores (NASDAQ: SPTN), the nation's tenth largest grocery distributor, is rolling out Perpetual Inventory and Computer Automated Ordering. The solution is comprised of Online Ordering and Perpetual Inventory applications developed by SofTechnics, which is tightly integrated with a field-proven Demand Forecasting and Inventory On-Hand Optimization application from SAF-AG, a Swiss software firm.

The Grand Rapids, Michigan-based grocery wholesale distributor and retail operator is utilizing Perpetual Inventory and Computer Automated Ordering (CAO) for improved management of product selection, reduction of out-of-stocks, better forecasting, profitability at SKU level, and reduction of costs. Results from the pilot have been very positive.

"Spartan Stores is very pleased with the results from our solution partnership with SofTechnics and the Perpetual Inventory and Computer Automated Order applications," said Dave Couch, Spartan Stores vice president information technology. "Spartan Stores will move in an exciting new direction as the result of the CAO / PI project. Our objective is to implement a CAO system that provides forecasted orders that are optimal and accurate."

The SofTechnics/SAF unique approach utilizes SofTechnics' industry leading suite of store level mobile applications to provide data where and when needed, combined with SAF's SuperStore application to provide fully automated replenishment, automated perpetual inventory, and optimization of inventory units on-hand. The application tools provide the data required by SAF SuperStore to generate the demand forecast and consider inventory levels to create a fully optimized order for each SKU.

The SAF SuperStore application automatically considers movement, price, promotions, seasonality, and other external factors in creating a single, unified forecast for the unique store / SKU. The system allows for complete retailer control of presentation stock levels, service level, and a variety of other parameters, which permits the retailer to make the decisions on how to merchandise their store.

“We are pleased Spartan Stores has selected SofTechnics to provide the inventory management and replenishment solutions to improve core business processes in their stores,” said Guy Dille, Global Business Unit Leader, Retail Software & Integration for Mettler-Toledo. “In the current economic environment, retailers need increased focus on their key corporate metrics. Whether it’s reducing out-of-stocks, improving inventory levels, or controlling slow moving items, all these are improved with the SofTechnics/SAF solution.”

#### **About Spartan Stores:**

As a progressive leader in the food distribution industry, Spartan Stores, based in Grand Rapids, Michigan, owns and operates 84 supermarkets and drugstores in Michigan under the D&W Fresh Markets, Family Fare Supermarkets, Felpausch Food Centers and Glen’s Markets banners. The company also supplies more than 40,000 private label and national brand products to nearly 400 independent grocery stores.

#### **About SofTechnics:**

SofTechnics, a Mettler-Toledo Company, is a premier provider of mobile price and inventory management solutions for the retail industry. Twenty years of experience developing mobile solutions combined with the extensive retail backgrounds of SofTechnics' associates have contributed to a prevailing position in the industry. The company is headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, with development offices in Akron, Ohio and Des Moines, Iowa, plus 16 sales and support offices across the United States.