

# OPTION REPORTS SECOND HALF YEAR AND FULL YEAR 2011 RESULTS

**Leuven, Belgium – March 1, 2012 –** Option N.V. (EURONEXT Brussels: OPTI; OTC: OPNVY), a global leader in wireless connectivity, security and experience, today announced its results for the full fiscal year and second half year ended December 31, 2011. The financial information reported in this release is presented in Euros and has been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement criteria of IFRS as adopted by the European Union. The accounting policies and methods of computation followed in the attached financial statements are the same as those followed in the most recent annual financial statements.

#### **Business Overview**

"Mobile broadband is increasingly seen as a utility," said Jan Callewaert, CEO at Option. "The market has moved to a point where today it is not enough to simply enable broadband connectivity, it has to be connectivity with a purpose. Option is at the forefront of combining excellent connectivity with world-class security and great user experience."

The industrial transformation, the Company embarked on in 2011, is being completed. The Company rebuilt its business by creating innovative and compelling products that enable new connected and secure services.

During the second half of 2011 the company deployed the following initiatives:

- The launch of the VIU<sup>2</sup>, an elegant mobile 3G camera that enables anyone to easily set up and manage the remote monitoring of homes, warehouses, vacation homes, construction sites, offices and much more. Since its launch VIU<sup>2</sup> has been upgraded to a Plug 'n Play 3G camera, streaming anywhere anytime to any iOS or Android device.
- In partnership with VASCO Data Security International, Inc (Nasdaq: VDSI), a leading software security company specializing in authentication products, Option is co-developping and bringing to market a new product called Cloudkey. This is a mobile security solution that provides simple and secure access to cloud applications and data, combining VASCO's Digipass authentication capability with Option's 3G USB modem and connection management software.
- The Group has announced the acquisition of the Connected Consumer Electronics assets of Mobiwire SA. These assets include Surface UX software, related IP and a core team of user experience experts. Surface UX is a complete solution to support Mobile Operators, Mobile Device Manufacturers and Retailers in managing and highlighting their offers to consumers. The Surface UX software will be integrated into future Option products.
- Option successfully completed the data interoperability testing (IOT) of its GTM 601W wireless module on the mobile broadband network of NTT DOCOMO, INC.
- AT&T introduced the GTM601 LGA module in its Mobile Broadband Accelerator Program. This
  extended program includes faster network technology, additional form factors and equipment

providers, offering next generation consumer electronics, embedded computing and machine-to-machine device makers access to a more efficient path to production.

- The Group announced its investment of \$1.5 million and partnership with San Francisco, US-based Autonet Mobile, Inc; a leading provider of in-car connectivity. The partnership will use Option's wireless modules and software to deliver the first mobile IP-based Telematics Control unit (TCU) for cars. Option's wireless modules combined with Autonet TCU and managed network, make this the first intelligent communication and control device designed to create a new and verticalized mobile automotive ecosystem. The first car model with the TCU will be available later on this year.
- Option's management team was strengthened with the arrival of Jerome Nadel. Jerome joined
  Option via the MobiWire acquisition and is now Chief Experience Officer (CXO). He is responsible
  for bringing innovative user-centric connected devices and services to market.
- Option was present at the Mobile World Congress (Barcelona, February 2012) showcasing Cloudkey and the VIU<sup>2</sup>. There the Company also officially introduced the XYFI, the world's smallest 3G & WIFI personal hotspot. The XYFI will offer a set of elegant power accessories, including a wall and car plug, and a unique extended battery pack for the longest autonomy of any battery-powered personal hotspot router.

#### Financial Highlights of the second half year 2011

- Total revenues for the second half year of 2011 were EUR 24.1 million compared with EUR 26.9 million realized in the second half year of 2010. Product related revenues decreased from EUR 20.4 million in the second half of 2010 till EUR 7.7 million in the same period of 2011, while software and license revenues increased from EUR 6.7 million in the second half of 2010 to EUR 16.4 million in the same period of 2011. EUR 14.6 million of that amount came out of licenses.
- Gross margin for the second half year 2011 was 69.1% on total revenues, compared with a gross margin of 34.8% for the comparable period in 2010. The gross margin for the second half year 2011 was positively influenced by more important license revenues.
- Compared to the second half year 2010, total operating expenses, in the second half of 2011 decreased with EUR 4.3 million from EUR 21 million to EUR 16.7 million as a result of the continuing efforts of an effective cost control within the Group.
- The second half year 2011 EBIT amounted to EUR -0.1 million compared with EUR -10.8 million during the corresponding period in 2010.
- Result before taxes amounted to EUR 0.06 million in the second half of 2011 compared with EUR -10.8 million in 2010.

#### Financial Highlights of the full fiscal year result 2011

- Total revenues for the full year 2011 were EUR 49.9 million, a decrease of 13.5% compared with EUR 57.7 million revenues realized during the comparable period in 2010. Software and license revenues increased from EUR 6.7 million in 2010 to EUR 30.7 million in 2011. EUR 28.0 million of that amount came out of licenses. Product related revenues decreased from EUR 51.0 million in 2010 to EUR 19.3 million in 2011, due to the phasing out of the old products and the fact that the new products are only just entering the market.
- Gross margin for the full year was EUR 30.7 million compared with EUR 15 million in 2010. Gross margin year to date in 2011 was 61.6%, compared with a gross margin of 26.1% in 2010. The 2011 gross margin was positively impacted by increased license revenues, delivering higher margins compared to revenues generated by products.

- Compared to the full year 2010, total operating expenses decreased with EUR 13.5 million from EUR 47.8 million to EUR 34.3 million. The reduced expenses are the result of the downsizing of the Company, combined with lower sales related costs as well as effective cost control within the Group.
- EBIT was EUR –3.6 million or –7.2% on total revenues during the full year 2011, compared with and EBIT of EUR –31.9 million or –55.2% on total revenues in 2010.
- The 2011 net result was EUR –2.9 million compared with a net result of EUR –61 million, or EUR –0.035 per basic share in 2011 compared with EUR -0,74 per basic share in 2010.
- The Group's balance sheet includes EUR 25.2 million in cash. The trade and other receivable position decreased from EUR 7.3 million to EUR 3.9 million and the inventory levels from EUR 12.4 million to EUR 6.8 million by the end of 2011. The intangible assets remained at the same level of EUR 8.8 million. The trade and other payable position decreased to EUR 18.1 million from EUR 30.1 million. The Group received EUR 33 million in Q1 2011 as prepaid licenses from Huawei. As result, there is an increase of deferred revenue from EUR + 4.4 million. No deferred tax asset was recognized.

#### **CONSOLIDATED PERFORMANCE**

| For the period ended 31 December Million EUR (except per share figures) | 2 <sup>nd</sup> HY<br>2011 | 2 <sup>nd</sup> HY<br>2010 | YTD 2011               | YTD 2010                 |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| RevenuesGross profit  |                            | 26.9<br>9.4                | 49.9<br>30.7           | 57.7<br>15.0             |
| Operating expenses and other income EBIT Net result                     | (0.1)                      | 20.2<br>(10.8)<br>(40.5)   | 34.3<br>(3.6)<br>(2.8) | 46.9<br>(31.9)<br>(61.0) |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares                              | 82 498 592                 | 82 498 592                 | 82 498 592             | 82 498 592               |
| Basic earnings / (loss) per share (EUR)                                 | 0                          | (0.49)                     | (0.04)                 | (0.74)                   |

#### **Annual Financial Report 2011**

Option is currently finalizing its IFRS financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2011. The auditor has not yet completed his audit procedures as of today. Should any material changes arise during the audit finalization, and additional press release will be issued. Option expects to be able to publish its fully audited Annual Financial Report for the year 2011 on or before April 13, 2012.

# - OPTION N.V. -

# FINANCIAL REPORT PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS (IFRS).

# **CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT**

| For the 6 and 12 month period ended 31 Dec. Thousands EUR (except per share figures) | 2 <sup>nd</sup> HY 2011 | 2 <sup>nd</sup> HY 2010 | 2011       | 2010       |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| <b>B</b>   |                         | _                       |            | _          |
| Revenues   | 24 081                  | 26 858                  | 49 915     | 57 731     |
| Product revenue  | 7 000                   | 20 369                  | 19 255     | 51 037     |
| Software and license revenue   | 16 398                  | 6 489                   | 30 663     | 6 694      |
| Cost of products sold  | (7 446)                 | (17 502)                | (19 181)   | (42 684)   |
| Gross margin   | 16 635                  | 9 356                   | 30 733     | 15 047     |
| Gross margin   |                         | 34.8%                   | 61.6%      | 26.1%      |
|  |                         |                         |            |            |
| Research and development expenses  | (7 699)                 | (7 324)                 | (14 424)   | (24 016)   |
| Sales, marketing and royalties expenses  | (4 462)                 | (7 480)                 | (9 852)    | (11 146)   |
| General and administrative expenses  | (4 600)                 | (6 262)                 | (10 036)   | (12 642)   |
| Total operating expenses   | (16 761)                | (21 066)                | (34 313)   | (47 804)   |
|  |                         |                         |            |            |
| Other income   | -                       | 871                     | -          | 871        |
|  |                         |                         |            |            |
| Profit from operations (EBIT)  | • •                     | (10 839)                | (3 580)    | (31 886)   |
| EBIT/Total revenues %  | (0.5%)                  | (40.4%)                 | (7.2%)     | (55.2%)    |
| Depreciation and amortization  | 4 195                   | 5 692                   | 8 768      | 20 228     |
| EDITOA   | 4.000                   | (5.4.47)                | F 400      | (44.050)   |
| EBITDA EBITDA/Total revenues %   | . 000                   | (5 147)                 | 5 188      | (11 658)   |
| EBIT DAV Total revenues //   | 16.9%                   | (19.2%)                 | 10.4%      | (20.2%)    |
| Exchange gain/(loss)   | 176                     | 458                     | 259        | (219)      |
| Interest income/(expense) and other financial income/(expense)                       | 13                      | (406)                   | 417        | (619)      |
| Finance result   |                         | 52                      | 676        | (6 673)    |
|  |                         | 02                      | 0.0        | (0.07)     |
| Result before taxes  | 63                      | (10 787)                | (2 904)    | (32 724)   |
|  |                         | , ,                     |            | , ,        |
| Tax benefits / (expense)   | (51)                    | (29 742)                | 42         | (28 314)   |
| Net result   | 12                      | (40 529)                | (2 862)    | (61 038)   |
|  |                         |                         |            |            |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares   |                         | 82 498 592              | 82 498 592 | 82 498 592 |
| Diluted average number of ordinary shares  | 82 498 592              | 82 498 592              | 82 498 592 | 82 498 592 |
|  |                         |                         |            |            |
| Basic earnings / (loss) per share (in EUR)   |                         | (0.49)                  | (0.04)     | (0.74)     |
| Diluted earnings / (loss) per share (in EUR)   | 0.00                    | (0.49)                  | (0.04)     | (0.74)     |
|  |                         |                         |            |            |

# CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS (IFRSS)

| Thousands EUR For the period ended                       | 31 December<br>2011 | 31 December<br>2010 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| 400570   |                     |                     |
| ASSETS   |                     |                     |
| Cosh and each aguivelents                                | 25 216              | 30 930              |
| Cash and cash equivalents<br>Trade and other receivables | 3 924               | 7 277               |
| Income tax receivable.                                   |                     | 47                  |
| Inventories  | 6 792               | 12 425              |
| ilivelitories  | 35 964              | 50 679              |
| Non-current assets                                       |                     |                     |
| Property, plant and equipment                            | 1 603               | 4 510               |
| Intangible assets  |                     | 8 596               |
| Other financial assets                                   | 1 173               | 48                  |
|  | 11 588              | 13 155              |
|  |                     |                     |
| Total assets   | 47 552              | 63 834              |
| EQUITY AND LIABILITIES                                   |                     |                     |
| Current liabilities                                      |                     |                     |
| Trade and other payables                                 | 18 125              | 30 136              |
| Deferred revenue   | 27 128              | 22 670              |
| Income tax payable                                       | 69                  | 95                  |
| Other financial liabilities                              | 14                  | 4 770               |
| Provisions (current)                                     | 948                 | 2 097               |
| Non-current liabilities                                  | 46 285              | 59 768              |
| Deferred tax liabilities                                 | 22                  | 20                  |
|  | 22                  | 20                  |
| Equity   |                     |                     |
| Issued capital   | 12 232              | 12 232              |
| Share premium  | 57 961              | 57 961              |
| Reserves   |                     | (176)               |
| Retained earnings  | (68 834)            | (65 971)            |
| Shareholders' equity                                     | 1 245               | 4 046               |
|  |                     |                     |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity               | 47 552              | 63 834              |

# **CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT**

Prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs)

| Thousands EUR   | 31 December | 31 December |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| For the period ended  | 2011        | 2010        |
| OPERATING ACTIVITIES  | 2011        | 2010        |
| Net Result (A)  | (2 862)     | (61 038)    |
|   | ( )         | ()          |
| Depreciation and amortization   | 8 404       | 14 093      |
| (Reversal of) Write-offs on current and non current assets            | (2 309)     | (690)       |
| Impairment losses on intangible assets                                | 365         | 6 135       |
| Impairment losses on tangible assets                                  |             | -           |
| Increase/(decrease) in provisions                                     |             | 543         |
| Loss/ (gains) on sale of property, plant & equipment                  |             | (300)       |
| Loss/ (gains) on sale of intangible assets                            |             | 14          |
| Unrealized foreign exchange losses/(gains)                            |             | 625         |
| (Gains)/Losses on sale of financial fixed assets                      | , ,         | (872)       |
| Interest income   | `           | (59)        |
| Interest expense  |             | 527         |
| Equity settled share based payment expense                            |             | 200         |
| Tax expense / (benefit)   |             | 28 314      |
| Total (B)   | 5 032       | 48 530      |
| Cash flow from operating activities before changes in working capital | 2 170       | (12 508)    |
| (C)=(A)+(B)   | 2 170       | (12 506)    |
| Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables                    | 3 258       | 10 421      |
| Decrease/(increase) in inventories                                    |             | 6 061       |
| Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables                       |             | (13 805)    |
| Increase/(decrease) in deferred revenue                               |             | 21 515      |
| Use in provisions   |             | (5 912)     |
|   | 3 931       | 18 280      |
| Total changes in working capital (D)                                  |             |             |
| Cash generated from operations (E)=(C)+(D)                            | 6 101       | 5 772       |
| Interests (paid) (F)  | (386)       | (319)       |
| Interests received (G)  | 320         | 50          |
| Income tax (paid)/received (H)  | (3)         | 17          |
| CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES (I)=(E)+(F)+(G)+(H)               | 6 030       | 5 520       |
|   |             |             |
| INVESTING ACTIVITIES  |             |             |
| Proceeds from sale of plant & equipment                               | 395         | 628         |
| Proceeds from sale of intangible assets                               |             | 6           |
| Investment in non-consolidated companies                              | (1 043)     | -           |
| Acquisition of business, net of cash disposed of                      | (220)       | -           |
| Acquisition of property, plant and equipment                          | (167)       | (64)        |
| Acquisition of intangible assets                                      |             | (574)       |
| Development expenditures  |             | (8 726)     |
| Cash inflow on disposal of subsidiary                                 |             | 7 145       |
| CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES (J)                               | (7 043)     | (1 585)     |
| FINANCING ACTIVITIES  |             |             |
| Finance Lease liabilities   | 35          | _           |
| Proceeds from borrowings  |             | 4 770       |
| Repayment of borrowings   |             | (8 355)     |
| Payment of finance lease liabilities                                  |             | (43)        |
| CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES (K)                               |             | (3 628)     |
|   |             |             |
| Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents (I)+(J)+(K)      |             | 307         |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period                      |             | 30 664      |
| Effect of exchange rate fluctuations on cash held                     |             | (41)        |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period                            |             | 30 930      |
| Difference  | (5 748)     | 307         |

### **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

|   | Shareholders' equity |               |  |                      |                   |                   |                 |
|---|----------------------|---------------|--|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Thousands EUR For the period ended 31 December 2011 | Issued capital       | Share premium | Share-<br>based<br>payment<br>reserves | Translation reserves | Share issue costs | Retained earnings | Total<br>equity |
| As per 31 December 2010                             | 12 232               | 57 961        | 1 376                                  | 83                   | (1 635)           | (65 971)          | 4 046           |
| Net result  | -                    | -             | -                                      | -                    | -                 | (2 862)           | (2 862)         |
| Share based payments                                | -                    | -             | 69                                     | -                    | -                 | -                 | 69              |
| Translation adjustment                              | -                    | -             | -                                      | (8)                  | -                 | -                 | (8)             |
| As per 31 December 2010                             | 12 232               | 57 961        | 1 444                                  | 76                   | (1 635)           | (68 837)          | 1 245           |

# **FINANCIAL CALENDAR**

Annual Shareholders Meeting:

Q1 business update:

Q2 results and "Interim Financial Report":

Q3 business update:

Monday April 30, 2012 at 10 AM in Leuven

Thursday April 26, 2012 Friday August 31, 2012 Thursday October 25, 2012 This press release contains forward-looking information that involves risks and uncertainties, including statements about the company's plans, objectives, expectations and intentions. Such statements include, without limitation, discussions concerning the company's strategic direction and new product introductions and developments. Readers are cautioned that such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially than those set forth in the forward looking statements. The risks and uncertainties include, without limitation, the early stage of the market for connectivity and integrated wireless products and solutions for portable and handheld computers and mobile telephones, the management of growth, the ability of the company to develop and successfully market new products, rapid technological change and competition. Some of these risk factors were highlighted in the latest available Consolidated and Statutory Report of the Board of Directors which can be found in the Annual Report. The forward-looking statements contained herein speak only as of the date of this press release. The company expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any such statement to reflect any change in the company's expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstance on which any such statement is based.

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#### **ABOUT OPTION**

Option is a global leader in wireless connectivity, security and experience. Option enhances the performance, functionality and usability of wireless communications through a portfolio of 3G, 4G HSPA/LTE and WLAN connectivity solutions. The company works with mobile operators, OEMs, retailers and enterprise customers to create compelling products that enable new connected and secure services. Option is headquartered in Belgium, with further R&D facilities in Germany and an ISO 9001 production engineering and logistics facility in Ireland. Option maintains offices in Europe, the US, Greater China, Japan and Australia. More at <a href="https://www.option.com">www.option.com</a>

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