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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Origin Instruments Announces Switch-Based Accessibility for Amazon's Kindle DX, Kindle 2 and Kindle 3

PageBot provides the first switch-based access to the Kindle eReader

GRAND PRAIRIE, TX, May 12, 2011 – <u>Origin Instruments Corporation</u>, a leading global provider of assistive technology, today announced the first switch-based access solutions for Amazon's popular Kindle electronic book readers. The new PageBot for Kindle enables independent reading of books and other long form documents by people who cannot hold the Kindle or press its buttons.

PageBot combines a secure and adjustable mount, dual integrated actuators for the Kindle Next Page and Previous Page buttons, and a built-in intelligent drive circuit that can directly interface to a wide variety of adaptive switches. With PageBot, reading on Amazon Kindle is easily accessible to people with motor disabilities that might result from birth defects, spinal cord injury, ALS, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, spinal muscular atrophy, multiple sclerosis, stroke, arthritis, or repetitive strain injury. PageBot provides a much more compact, reliable, and cost effective solution for longform reading than legacy mechanical page turners for paper books. Regardless of whether reading from bed, desk, easy chair, or wheel chair, PageBot provides a simple interface that encourages immersive reading.

PageBot integrates multiple interfaces for adaptive switches that can suit the preferences and abilities of individual users. Standard mechanical adaptive switches with 3.5 mm microphone-style connectors, like the button switches available from Origin Instruments, can be plugged in directly. Dual switches, like the Origin Instruments Sip/Puff Switch, can interface with a single stereo cable. PageBot is also compatible with a wide range of adaptive switches that are available from other assistive technology suppliers. In addition, a USB host interface is provided so that PageBot can be operated from the buttons of a wired or wireless USB mouse.

PageBot captures the Kindle in a grip of compliant foam that helps prevent scratches and enhances resistance to mechanical shocks. PageBot is delivered with an adjustable mechanical mounting arm that is articulated in four degrees of freedom. The mounting arm includes an integrated adjustable clamp that supports hard-mounting to table tops, shelves, or cylindrical rods of up to 36 mm diameter. PageBot also incorporates a standard 1/4-20 threaded insert for use with tripods or other special mounting hardware.

PageBot has very low quiescent power consumption and can be powered from the standard Kindle power adapter or from an optional rechargeable USB battery pack. PageBot includes an integrated

Keep Awake mode with an automatic timer that can optionally prevent the Kindle from entering sleep after a period of inactivity. This feature eliminates the need to manipulate the Kindle power switch after a pause in reading.

PageBot for Kindle DX is priced at \$379.00 US and PageBot for Kindle 2 is priced at \$329.00 US. Both are available for immediate delivery from the Origin Instruments online PageBot store at <u>http://estore.orin.com</u>. PageBot for Kindle 3 is priced at \$329.00 US, and will be available in June 2011. Amazon's Kindle and needed adaptive switches are priced separately.

With PageBot and the Amazon Kindle, the technology quickly fades into the background of an immersive reading experience.

For full details, photos, specifications, and answers to frequently asked questions, please visit the Origin instruments website at <u>http://www.orin.com/go/pagebot</u>. High resolution photos and collateral materials for use in web and print media are available at <u>http://media.orin.com/pagebot</u>.

Product Features

- The Kindle is supported in a rugged mount with facing surfaces of compliant foam
- Includes a four degree-of-freedom articulated arm with integrated clamp for mounting
- Dual electro-mechanical actuators for the Kindle's Next Page and Previous Page buttons.
- Dual switch connectors for interface to adaptive switches with standard 3.5 mm plugs
- Stereo input capability for interfacing dual switches with a single cable
- Integrated USB host for adaptive switches that emulate a USB mouse
- Integrated Keep Awake mode prevents the Kindle from entering sleep after a pause in reading
- Micro-USB power input for compatibility with the standard Kindle power adapter
- Optional rechargeable battery pack supports wireless portability and full on-the-go reading
- PageBot exposes all Kindle features for manual access, including the Amazon Whispernet wireless antenna(s), the stereo headphone jack, the Kindle battery recharge port, and the Kindle's buttons and switches.
- The Kindle can be inserted or removed from PageBot for convenient sharing with friends and family members

About Origin Instruments

Origin Instruments was founded in 1990. The company is a developer and manufacturer of advanced electronic and optical systems and associated software. Origin Instruments services customers in two markets: assistive technology for people with disabilities and precision three-dimensional tracking for applications in a variety of settings, including academia, medical and government. For more information visit: <u>http://www.orin.com</u>

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