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Good and wicked cool mobile and wireless companies to watch

By John Cox, Network World, 10/05/2009

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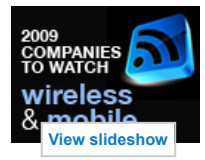
We took a look at wireless and mobile companies whose product innovation and ambition reflect the mobile industry ferment, which is being expressed in all kinds of products from IT management services to unique Apple iPhone applications. These companies are trying to enable better mobile e-commerce and empower business class mobile users.

Advertisement

Company name: [Aperian](#)

Founded: January 2009

Location: Boston



What it offers:

Aperian offers the ability to make the Apple iPhone a true extension of the enterprise network and data. Aperian does consulting, application development and is creating a set of enterprise application frameworks for mobilizing secure enterprise data, e-commerce and intranets as iPhone applications.

Why it's worth watching:

Created by Apple iPhone veterans, Aperian is entirely focused on enterprise-class mobile applications for the iPhone. Its application frameworks promise to provide much needed middleware to support mobile e-commerce and services for enterprise iPhones.

How the company got its start: A group of Apple employees had been involved in building applications for early enterprise customers, but it wasn't a business Apple would invest in. The group decided to split off and create their own company.

How the company got its name: "App" from, well, app. "lan" means "belonging to, coming from, being involved in, or being like something" but it's also intended to echo "sapien" as in "homo sapien" (literally knowing man or wise man), short **O and background:** Chuck Goldman spent eight years at Apple as director of field engineering and professional services, helping enterprise customers integrate Macs and iPhones. Previously, he founded Interactive Media Solutions, which created online recruiting tools for colleges and universities.

Funding: Aperian received \$200,000 in founder and angel funding, and in July closed a \$1 million round of venture capital led by [CommonAngels](#), a group of private investors and limited partners in two co-investment funds. www.commonangels.com

Who uses the product: Aperian has had several engagements, developing iPhone applications for American Greetings, DuPont and Timberland among others.

Company name: MobileIron

Founded: July 2007, declouded and announced product August 2009

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