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TECH

## BMC Software Acquires IT Masters for \$42 Million

By **GARY MCWILLIAMS** Staff Reporter of The Wall Street Journal

Updated March 25, 2003 12:13 a.m. ET

HOUSTON -- In its second acquisition in six months, BMC Software Inc. said it bought a closely-held developer of systems management tools for \$42 million in cash.

The computer-management software company said the acquisition, of IT Masters International S.A., Leuven, Belgium, provides technology to automatically detect and help manage changes across a computer network.

In September, BMC bought the Remedy software unit of Peregrine Systems Inc. for about \$350 million. Remedy also distributed IT Masters software with its event-monitoring software.

IT Masters was founded in 1995 by two former developers from International Business Machines Corp.'s Tivoli software unit, and backed by venture investors Bank Brussels Lambert and Air Liquide Ventures, an investment arm of Air Liquide Group. Last year, IT Masters had revenue of between \$10 million and \$11 million, according to a BMC spokesman.

BMC said it will retain IT Master's employees, numbering about 75 at offices in Brussels and Austin, Texas.

The companies have existing joint marketing agreements. BMC also has distributed IT Masters software with its own systems-management products since 1995. The two also share a number of customers, including Choice Hotels International, Deutsche Bank, and Verizon Communications Inc.

composite trading.

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PRIOR BMC ACQUISITION

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- Struggling Peregrine Will Sell Remedy  
Subsidiary to BMC  
(</articles/SB1032710470712961233.djm>)  
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