

**Breaking News****Encore seeks distributors, OEMs for Simputer**

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Simputer, the inexpensive handheld substitute for computer, is set for market launch this month. Bangalore-based Encore Software, one of the two companies with licenses to make the device, is planning to tie-up with at least one national distributor and several regional distributors to push sales.

Based on configuration, the end-user price of Simputer will range from Rs 13,000 to Rs 25,000, said Vinay Deshpande, chairman, Encore Software. "We will ship just 200 Simputers in July," he said. "This will be a trial run to test the extent of sales, support and services we can manage."

The company intends to tie-up with OEMs who can offer Simputers as a part of their offering. "We aim to put our distribution and OEM tie-ups in place within a months time. By August, we will go full steam," said Deshpande.

Orders have come from state governments, PSUs, consumer goods companies and co-operative banks for their rural operations, said Deshpande.

The Simputer Trust was formed in April 2001 by Encore officials and professors of Bangalore's prestigious Indian Institute of Science (IIS).

Simputer's applications include voicemail, text-to-speech capabilities and Internet access. Powered by an Intel StrongARM processor, it comes equipped with 64MB RAM.

Resellers interested can have more details from [www.ncoretech.com](http://www.ncoretech.com) or can send an e-mail to [simp-info@ncoretech.com](mailto:simp-info@ncoretech.com)