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BlueTie Inc. has signed a distribution alliance with WSI Internet Consulting and Education, extending its distribution to more than 1,500 consultants.

The deal leverages BlueTie's e-mail and collaboration services into a new offering for its customers called WSI Email Plus, within WSI's portfolio of Internet solutions, BlueTie officials said.

The email product is spam- and virus-protected; initial packages offer a full gigabyte of storage. WSI is an Internet solutions provider to small and medium-size businesses in 87 countries.

"Teaming with WSI allows us to triple the size of our channel partner network and will lead to significant growth in our total number of end-users," said Kevin Beatson, vice president of BlueTie service provider sales and marketing. "BlueTie gains a valuable new service provider partner, and WSI's consultants have a potent new offering in their service portfolio."

BlueTie is a local provider of hosted e-mail and collaboration programs.

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