

*Magellan Initiative*

*Fact Sheet March 2009*

**Magellan Initiative**

In October 2008 the government of Portugal and Microsoft Corp. signed an agreement to help accelerate technology adoption in education with the international launch of the Microsoft Learning Suite for Magellan. In support of the Portuguese government’s “e-Escolinhas” program, Microsoft developed a comprehensive suite of software, training, content, services and support for the Magellan, an affordable portable computer for primary and junior high school students made in Portugal.

The launch of the Learning Suite for Magellan draws on the involvement and expertise of the Portuguese government and the technology industry, including Carlos Zorrinho, coordinator of the Technological Plan in Portugal, a far-reaching initiative by the government to provide Portuguese citizens with the latest technology to support their participation in a knowledge-based economy.

Microsoft’s investment in the Learning Suite for Magellan is designed to encourage targeted, international adoption of the Magellan educational computers by addressing the need for relevant software and content, user support, digital literacy, and broad scalability:

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| • | Investment in training for students, parents and teachers will promote greater digital inclusion, with particular focus on Internet security.  |
| • | A tailored desktop for the Magellan portable computer will be developed. In addition to the Windows XP operating system, Magellan computers will also feature Microsoft Office 2007 and a suite of educational products, including Microsoft Student Learning Essentials, Microsoft Maths and Microsoft Encarta Online. |
| • | Learning and education resources for students, parents and teachers will be provided through the Microsoft Digital Literacy Curriculum and Security Curriculum. |
| • | Through Microsoft Live@Edu, these collaborative services will be made available for students, parents and teachers: Windows Live Mail, Windows Live Spaces, Windows Live SkyDrive, Windows Live Messenger, Windows Live Mesh and Microsoft Office Live Workspace. With this service suite, all Magellan users will be able to communicate with each other in a security-enhanced and collaborative environment. |
| • | Training and technical support through the National Teacher Training Program is aimed at fostering a richer and more productive usage of Magellan, in and outside the classroom. At the training plan level, special focus shall be given to parents in what concerns a more secure usage of technology, to empower them to give support and be able to answer their children’s queries. |

**Microsoft’s Unlimited Potential Vision**

Microsoft, through its Unlimited Potential vision, is committed to making technology more affordable, relevant and accessible for the 5 billion people around the world who do not yet enjoy its benefits. The company aims to do so by helping to transform education and foster a culture of innovation, and through these means enable better jobs and opportunities. By working with governments, intergovernmental organizations, nongovernmental organizations and industry partners, Microsoft hopes to reach its first major milestone — to reach the next 1 billion people who are not yet realizing the benefits of technology — by 2015.

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