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PRESS RELEASE

Acer joins European Ministries of Education in designing the future classroom

Acer strengthens its collaboration with European Schoolnet by joining the iTEC project (http://itec.eun.org) as an Associate Partner.

European Schoolnet has announced today that Acer is now an Associate Partner in its €9.45 million iTEC project (http://itec.eun.org) which is developing and validating designs for the future classroom in >1,000 classrooms across 12 countries in Europe. Acer has already been working with European Schoolnet on a major netbook pilot (www.netbooks.eun.org/) and, earlier this year, also joined other ICT vendors to support the work of European Schoolnet's Interactive Whiteboard Working Group (http://iwbwg.eun.org).

The four-year iTEC project, launched in September 2010, involves 27 partners, including 14 Ministries of Education. iTEC aims to investigate how established and emerging technologies can be used effectively in classrooms in the next 5-10 years. This flagship project looks beyond the way schools are currently using learning platforms (e.g., learning management systems, virtual learning environments, etc.) towards community-driven, personalised learning spaces created by individuals through their interaction with multiple online educational services.

Marc Durando, European Schoolnet's Executive Director, commented that Acer's contributions to the iTEC project will be of great value: "*iTEC is the largest and most strategic project yet undertaken by European Schoolnet and its supporting 30 Ministries of Education. The results from the Acer-European Schoolnet Netbook Pilot will be particularly important for iTEC as they will feed into the one-to-one computing scenarios for schools that iTEC will develop and validate.*"

The iTEC project has been designed as an "ideas lab" where ICT vendors and Ministries can come together to rethink how teaching and learning will evolve over the coming years. Acer expressed its interest in supporting iTEC even before the project was formally accepted by the European Commission. **Federico Carozzi, Acer's EMEA Educational Business Manager**, is very positive about the new venture: "*Acer is delighted to be working with European Schoolnet and the other partners of the iTEC project. iTEC represents an important way for*

Acer to develop its global educational strategy by investigating how our technology, that includes interactive whiteboards, interactive projectors, netbooks and tablets, can help deliver the iTEC designs for teaching and learning in the future classroom and other learning spaces."

For more information: itec-contact@eun.org

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About European Schoolnet (www.europeanschoolnet.org)

European Schoolnet is a unique network of 30 Ministries of Education in Europe and beyond. EUN was created more than 10 years ago with the aim to bring about innovation in teaching and learning to its key stakeholders: Ministries of Education, schools, teachers and researchers.

- About the iTEC project: http://itec.eun.org
- About the Acer-European Schoolnet Netbook Pilot: www.netbooks.eun.org
- About the Interactive Whiteboard Working Group: http://iwbwg.eun.org

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About Acer (www.acer.com)

Since its founding in 1976, Acer has achieved the goal of breaking the barriers between people and technology. Globally, Acer ranks No. 2 for total PCs and notebooks. The Acer Group employs 7,000 people worldwide. 2009 revenues reached US$17.9 billion.