

## **Classroom Connect Introduces Professional Development Workshops for Educators Using Compaq iPAQ Pocket PCs**

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As handheld devices become a prevalent tool for educators and their students, there is a need for understanding the many ways teachers and administrators can use these devices to make their jobs easier and student learning more effective. Classroom Connect, a leading provider of professional development for K-12 education and member of Compaq's BonusPoints program, today introduced four, one-day Connected Workshops(TM) designed to prepare K-12 educators to apply the Compaq iPAQ(TM) Pocket PC's capabilities to the classroom and office.

Developed and led by Classroom Connect Learning Specialists, Connected Workshops support teachers in their goal to make technology an integral part of the learning environment and ultimately bolster student achievement. More than 25 Connected Workshops are currently available, including the following new workshops specifically designed for educators who use or would like to use iPAQ Pocket PCs:

- Getting to Know Your iPAQ Pocket PC (for administrators)
- Getting to Know Your iPAQ Pocket PC (for teachers)
- Integrating Your iPAQ Pocket PC into the Curriculum (for teachers)
- Using iPAQ Pocket PCs with Your Students (for teachers)

Each one-day workshop accommodates up to 20 participants and consists of three modules that range from explaining the functions of the iPAQ Pocket PC to describing how to use it as a curriculum integration and learning tool. The modules can be customized to fit participants' experience and needs. Pricing is determined by number of participants.

"The major obstacle to schools fully implementing the iPAQ Pocket PC is unfamiliarity with the product and its capabilities," said Judith Hamilton, president and CEO of Classroom Connect. "Once they're comfortable with the iPAQ, educators can use it for tracking school and student activities, checking attendance, creating or editing Word and Excel files on the go, integrating electronic data such as audio and video files and Internet text into their curriculum and much more. Plus, you're looking at a reduction in paper flow, something every educator can appreciate."

Once students also have the iPAQ Pocket PC, teachers can beam assignments directly to them, view work in progress, designate one of the device's 29 built-in classic e-books for literature and history reading, or develop creative ways to help students grasp concepts. "Teachers and administrators should be at ease with this technology before it's expanded to the student population, so that's our focus," said Hamilton. "Once everything's in place, it'll be an effective, flexible, and interactive environment for both educators and students."

"The Compaq iPAQ is changing the way students learn," said George Warren, Compaq director of K12 education. "Its futuristic design, wireless nature, and extensive capabilities really empower every student to excel in a rapidly changing world. The key is for educators to know the

capabilities of the iPAQ, and we think these Connected Workshops are an excellent hands-on solution."

#### About the BonusPoints Program

Through the BonusPoints program, Compaq's K-12 customers earn points for purchases made through Compaq Education (GEM Direct) at [www.Compaq.com/k12/bonuspoints](http://www.Compaq.com/k12/bonuspoints). Compaq customers can then redeem BonusPoints for Classroom Connect offerings, including Connected Workshops, as well as educational products and services from other BonusPoints providers. Compaq iPAQ users can also contract directly with Classroom Connect by calling 800-638-1639 or by emailing [connect@classroom.com](mailto:connect@classroom.com).

#### About Compaq Computer Corporation

Founded in 1982, Compaq Computer Corporation is a leading global provider of information technology products, services and solutions for enterprise customers. Compaq designs, develops, manufactures and markets information technology equipment, software, services and solutions, including industry-leading enterprise storage and computing solutions, fault-tolerant business-critical solutions, communication products, personal desktop and notebook computers, and personal entertainment and Internet access devices that are sold in more than 200 countries directly and through a network of authorized Compaq marketing partners. Information on Compaq and its products and services is available at [www.compaq.com](http://www.compaq.com).

#### About Classroom Connect

Classroom Connect, Inc., a business unit within Harcourt, Inc., is a leading provider of professional learning and classroom learning resources that foster successful use of the Internet in K-12 education. Headquartered in Brisbane, CA, with offices in El Segundo, CA, Minneapolis, MN and Abilene, TX, Classroom Connect has more than 170 employees. Its primary product brands include: Connected University(R) (online professional development); Classroom Today(TM) (online classroom curriculum); The Quest Channel(TM) (online adventure learning expeditions); Connected Conferences(TM) (live, nationwide events); Connected Workshops(TM) (on-site seminars); and Classroom Connect Newsletter(TM) (monthly Internet education journal). Its partners include some of the nation's most respected organizations, including the American Museum of Natural History, the Library of Congress, The Franklin Institute Online, and NASA. For more information about Classroom Connect, visit the company's Web site at [www.classroom.com](http://www.classroom.com).

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