



Valiant USA

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Your Helping Hand.

News Release

For Immediate Release

Valiant USA Adds Activities, Multiplies Compatibility in *MathAmigo*® V. 3

New version allows for greater access to inexpensive yet comprehensive math system

FOREST PARK, Ill. (June 28, 2005) – Valiant USA, a provider of innovative K-12 science and math-based technology products, today launches Version 3 of its successful *MathAmigo* K-8 standards-based math software. The new version features 60 new math activities ranging from geometry to pre-algebra and will run on more devices to include desktop, laptop and tablet PCs as well as Windows-based handhelds.

Valiant pioneered the development of instructional materials for handheld technologies with the launch of *MathAmigo* on its own portable device in 2000. Following the introduction of Palm Powered™ devices in schools, the company converted the software to work with Palm Powered™ devices and AlphaSmart Dana. “Handhelds and other portable devices allow for the greatest student access to technology and supports the way educators teach, rather than making them work around the technology,” explained Dave Catlin, CEO of Valiant. With the rapid increase in laptops and tablet computers, Valiant has expanded the *MathAmigo* system to work on more operating platforms to enable schools to utilize these new technologies and their own existing resources.

MathAmigo is now compatible with:

- all devices running Palm OS 4.0 and above, including AlphaSmart Dana;
- all devices running Pocket PC2002 and Pocket PC2003; and
- all computers using Windows 95, 98, ME, NT, 2000, XP and 2003.

MathAmigo offers many of the same capabilities as large instructional systems, but at a much lower cost. With the addition of new activities, *MathAmigo* features more than 3000 standards-based activities ranging from counting to pre-algebra plus randomly generated questions. The system allows educators to quickly and easily plan daily math lessons individualized to each student, yet run the lessons in the classroom as a group. *MathAmigo* provides an engaging format that enables students to practice their math skills while developing problem-solving skills and a better understanding of math concepts. Students receive immediate feedback on the activities through encouragement, hints and tutorials, plus their progress is automatically tracked for review. The management system produces reports to help educators pinpoint student needs for future lessons.



As part of the company's mission, *MathAmigo* is being used to improve math skills in students from under-served communities, encourage their interest in math and help prepare them for careers in an increasingly technological world. The program also assists schools in closing the achievement gap. Valiant USA, Education Technology Think Tank and AlphaSmart are working collaboratively to introduce the technology-based program of *MathAmigo* software on AlphaSmart Dana devices to PS 161 Crown School in Brooklyn, one of the poorest neighborhoods in New York City. Rutgers University and Medgar Evers College is providing support to educators as well as assessing the program.

In addition, Valiant is presenting *MathAmigo* at the SECME Summer Institute. SECME is a strategic alliance to renew and strengthen the professional capacity of K-12 educators, motivate and mentor students, and empower parents so that all students can learn and achieve at higher levels. Valiant has joined SECME's efforts to help minority, low-income and differently abled students improve their skills and prepare for post-secondary studies in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

"For SECME educators and their students, we know *MathAmigo* will be a new best friend," said Dr. Yvonne Freeman, executive director of SECME. "This technology offers the power to individualize and pace mathematics instruction, to align class and home work with textbook content, to make new concepts more visual and quickly understood by all learners, and to track their progress in real time. We are eager to share this exciting learning tool for the first time this summer." The 29th Annual SECME Summer Institute is July 10-21, 2005, at North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro.

Educators can request a copy of *MathAmigo* for a 60-day free trial at www.mathamigo.com or by calling 888-366-6628. A license for up to 10 users is \$495 for grades K-5 and \$495 for grades 6-8. Licenses do not expire, so there is no annual renewal fee.

About Valiant USA

Valiant USA, based in Forest Park, Ill., is a wholly owned subsidiary of Valiant Technology, Ltd., headquartered in London. Valiant USA was established in 2004, and serves the K-12 U.S. education market. The company's mission is to provide educational technology products that help students fulfill their potential by teaching them to think, to understand and to use their knowledge in creative and positive ways. The company's science and math product line includes robotic educational tools, *Roamer*[™] and *Turtle*; the design technology kit, *Inventa*[™]; the electronics kit, *Tronix*[™]; and the *SenSci*[®] data logger and control products as well as the new math software for handhelds, *MathAmigo*[®]. Valiant Technology has won numerous prestigious awards including the Queen's Awards for Enterprise: Innovation 2002, the BETT Award for Best Primary Product in 1999 and two products were designated as Millennium Products by the British Council.

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