

*****NEWS RELEASE***NEWS RELEASE*****

AlphaSmart believes ‘Every SENCO Matters’ at Surrey Conference

AlphaSmart, a division of Renaissance Learning, will be attending the ‘Every SENCO Matters’ event at Sandown Park Racecourse in Esher, Surrey, on 12th February 2009.

Specifically targeted towards Primary SENCO’s, the conference brings together four keynote speakers to explore the most challenging areas now facing them on a daily basis. Covering everything from budgets and strategies, to how to make a significant contribution to whole school improvement, the keynote sessions will explore:

- ‘What every SENCO needs to know’ – Dr Rona Tutt
- The complexities of SEN funding – Lorraine Petersen
- How schools are responding to the ECM agenda following its launch five years ago – Rita Cheminais
- Streamlining the bureaucratic burden of SEN paperwork – Jean Gross

Since 1992, AlphaSmart has been committed to developing and making technology affordable, accessible and easier to apply to the challenges of the classroom. Richard Courtney, Head of Hardware Products and Operations, comments:

“At the ‘Every SENCO Matters’ event, we will be demonstrating how AlphaSmart products, such as NEO and NEO 2, can help unlock the potential in all pupils – and particularly those with special needs.”

Visit the AlphaSmart stand between 9 am and 4 o’clock pm at Sandown Park in Esher, Surrey, on Thursday 12th February 2009.

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- Ends -

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For further press enquiries, please contact Richard Courtney, Tel: 020 7184 4081, email rcourtney@renlearn.co.uk, or Gareth Andrews, Tel: 020 7184 4074, email gandrews@renlearn.co.uk, website: www.alphasmart.co.uk.

About AlphaSmart

AlphaSmart, a division of Renaissance Learning, is committed to helping all ages of pupil to learn and writers to write. Since 1992 its goal has been to make technology more affordable, accessible, and easier to apply to the challenges of the classroom.

NEO provides low-cost, simple and trouble-free computing, for use as a vital part of teaching and learning through ICT. With over 700 hours battery-life and an extremely robust design, the portable note-takers can be found working in classrooms and on field-trips worldwide, everyday – for true anywhere, anytime learning. NEO is also frequently the portable word-processor of choice by many writing professionals, including journalists, authors and travelling writers. NEO 2 builds on this by including full wireless voting and assessment functionality, wireless printing, and Accelerated Reader compatibility.

CRS, the Classroom Response System, is a self-contained voting and assessment tool, designed to empower all pupils to have a clear and equal voice, as well as enabling teachers to use continuous assessment for learning in their teaching while working towards personalised learning. CRS works with any digital resources.

About Renaissance Learning UK Limited

Renaissance Learning UK Limited is a subsidiary of Renaissance Learning Inc, a company founded in Wisconsin (USA) in 1986. Renaissance Learning UK Ltd is a leading provider of educational solutions to primary and secondary schools across the United Kingdom.

Adopted by more than 73,000 schools Renaissance Learning's advanced technology makes the practice component of a school's reading, maths and writing curriculum more personalised and effective than ever before. The company's hosted and web-delivered Accelerated Reader Advantage and Accelerated Maths Advantage programmes are used successfully by well over 100,000 children in the UK every day to help them improve their results and achieve a life-long love of reading.

Renaissance Learning produces software that provides teachers and pupils with immediate access to information on academic performance. This information technology provides timely and reliable feedback that enhances individualised instruction, creating a better learning environment for more motivated pupils.

Renaissance works closely with the National Literacy Trust and Specialist Schools and Academies Trust, and is supported by best-selling authors for children, such as Malorie Blackman, Peter J Murray and GP Taylor.