

Rutgers University Globalizes Education with phonefree.com

by Dean Mastrojohn

Teachers and administrators met on July 13, 2000 in New Jersey at the Rutgers University Center for Mathematics, Science and Computer Education (CMSCE) for a three-week seminar, to learn how to use the Internet as a multimedia communications medium, not only as a research tool. Educators were instructed about the new and innovative ways to capitalize on the benefits of the web in the classroom. Instruction included voice and video applications with free PC-to-Phone and free PC-to-PC calling developed by Phonefree.com. The pilot project, "Technology Enhancing Collaborative Communities," is being held on the Rutgers campus in Piscataway, New Jersey.

The project brought together seventeen teachers and administrators from schools throughout New Jersey and Puerto Rico to assist them in develop understanding of how to successfully create collaborative learning communities in the K-8 environment in their schools. Teachers learned to share information with colleagues on a real-time basis and how to allow their students to interact with students from different cultures. A portion of the project showed them how to effectively integrate PhoneFree.com's Internet telephony technology into their curriculums, as well as its multi-faceted communications abilities - voice mail, video mail, video calling, teleconferencing and instant messaging.

"We are very proud to be partnering with one of the premier institutions of higher learning in the country to introduce IP telephony as a vital educational technology to teachers around the world," said Jan Horsfall, President and CEO of PhoneFree.com. "IP Telephony has already revolutionized the communications industry and now we have the opportunity to revolutionize education as well. We will help teach children the skills they will need in order to succeed in today's technology-focused global economy."

Because PhoneFree.com's offerings at <http://www.phonefree.com> are free, it is a cost-effective tool for schools that are interested in implementing distance learning courses into their curriculum.

"We conducted thorough research of the IP telephony sector to find a service like PhoneFree.com, that would allow students and teachers to exchange information using voice and video communications tools," said Harriet Schweitzer, Associate Director of CMSCE at Rutgers University. "We look forward to working with PhoneFree.com to help teachers utilize this technology in their classrooms to facilitate the interaction between different cultures around the world."

PhoneFree.com is an interactive multimedia communications company offering innovative Internet phone service. The Company's proprietary Internet-based

software provides consumers with trusted, easy-to-use, state-of-the-art PC-to-Phone to and within the U.S. and free PC-to-PC calling anywhere in the world. With the broadest feature set in the category, the service also provides for free voice mail, video mail, video calling, teleconferencing and instant messaging. PhoneFree.com is a portfolio company of eVentures Group (OTC BB: EVNT) and is led by a group of Internet visionaries, which includes the marketing team that catapulted Lycos into a leading online destination and household name. PhoneFree.com's software can be easily and quickly downloaded by going to the company's Web site at www.phonefree.com.

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