



Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pearson VUE Renews Global Test Delivery Contract with Microsoft

Three Year Contract Extension is Valued at \$40 Million

BLOOMINGTON, Minn., May 24, 2004 – Pearson VUE, the electronic testing business of Pearson Education, today announced that it has signed a three-year contract extension, valued at \$40 million, with Microsoft Corp. to continue test delivery of computer-based Microsoft certification exams. Pearson VUE currently delivers the full suite of Microsoft Certified Professional and Microsoft Business Solutions exams in more than 3,600 Pearson VUE™ Authorized Centers worldwide – the most extensive test center network in the industry.

The renewed agreement supports several Microsoft offerings unique to Pearson VUE customers, including a Microsoft Windows Server 2003 certification initiative in the United States, as well as premier e-commerce engagements and a global rewards program for Microsoft Certified Trainers.

“Through its relationship with Pearson VUE, Microsoft has increased the reach of key learning products and improved service levels to Microsoft customers worldwide,” said Lutz Ziob, general manager of Microsoft Learning. “Pearson VUE’s continuing role as one of the market leaders in IT certification testing was key to extending a business partnership that has lasted nearly a decade.”

“We are very pleased that Microsoft has extended its contract with Pearson VUE, and will continue to work in concert to provide the best testing experience possible for exam candidates. As the IT industry continues to evolve and grow, we look forward to leveraging the outstanding relationship we have with Microsoft to explore new ideas and bring more opportunities to our mutual customers,” said Bob Whelan, Pearson VUE vice president and general manager.

Pearson VUE (www.pearsonvue.com) is the electronic testing business of Pearson Education, which in turn is part of Pearson (NYSE: PSO; LSE: PSON), the international media company. Pearson’s primary operations also include the Financial Times Group and the Penguin Group.

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