

Thomson NETg Introduces Podcast Series for Corporate Training Leaders

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Hosted series highlights trends, best practices in e-learning via 'subscribe, download and go' format

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz., Sept 06, 2005 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- Thomson NETg, the leading provider of knowledge on demand to global enterprises and part of The Thomson Corporation (NYSE: TOC; TSX: TOC), has introduced a new hosted Podcast Series focused on highlighting both trends and best practices in the area of corporate and organizational employee training and development.

Podcasting is an increasingly popular method for publishing audio files via the Internet, allowing users to subscribe to a feed and download the files for listening at their convenience on an MP3 player, such as the Apple iPod. It is an on-demand, portable technology that allows users to learn, catch up on current events or entertain themselves while "on the go." The latest research from the Pew Internet and American Life Project, an initiative of the Pew Research Center, estimates more than 22 million American adults currently own iPods or MP3 players, and six million (29 percent) of them already actively download podcasts.

"Podcasting has exploded in the past year thanks to the popularity of Apple's iPod," said Joe Dougherty, president of Thomson NETg. "Podcasts are a fantastic way to distribute information in today's fast-paced business world because listeners are not tied down to a defined schedule. You simply subscribe to your favorite Podcast and the underlying technology of XML, your computer and your personal audio player do the rest. Subscribe, download and go: it's that simple."

The new series, moderated by host Stephen Carman, who directs client care initiatives at Thomson NETg, will use this "subscribe, download and go" format to feature interviews with special guests and to explore a range of issues important to organizational learning leaders, including:

- * Best practices in organizational learning, highlighting learning leaders advancing new ideas and new ways of achieving organizational learning objectives;
- * Emerging trends in training and development, with a focus on new and improved technologies that support the learning mission;
- * Shifting regulatory compliance landscapes and the ways in which learning leaders can help reduce risk across their organizations; and
- * Ways in which to effectively link learning initiatives with bottom-line objectives, and how best to demonstrate the real value of the learning function within larger organizational contexts.

"At Thomson NETg, we've always prioritized close dialog with our clients, partners and colleagues," said Dougherty. "With the advent of Podcasts, we now have a new medium through which to extend such conversations by interviewing learning leaders who will share their experiences and wisdom with the wide audience we reach via our Website and online learning solutions."

Accessible via the Thomson NETg website at www.netg.com/podcasts, the new series is produced by Brian Johnson, who directs Web promotions for NETg, in the broadcast studios located in Thomson NETg's Scottsdale, Arizona, headquarters-the same studios used to broadcast NETg Live Now virtual classroom events. Podcasts are available now and new Podcasts will be added approximately every two weeks

Series host Stephen Carman has deep experience in the field of organizational learning. Carman has been in the training profession for the past 16 years in various roles ranging from instructor, to training technology strategist, to assistant vice president of training. He has worked in a variety of industries including petrochemical, medical, publishing and financial services, and has also served as facilitator for a number of professional and non-profit organizations including The American Society of Training & Development (ASTD), Houston Minority Business Council, and the Christian Education Association.

About The Thomson Corporation and Thomson NETg

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Thomson NETg (www.netg.com) delivers powerful knowledge on demand to the global enterprise, helping to align people, processes and priorities better than ever before. Our breadth and flexibility of knowledge resources, together with more than 35 years of enterprise empowerment experience, help organizations of all sizes to manage change, transform operations and exceed bottom-line expectations. Thomson NETg: Knowledge Now.

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