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Subject: NIIT inks strategic alliance with Microsoft to develop Cloud-ready professionals

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed a copy of the above referred Press Release. This is for your information and records.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,
For NIIT Limited



Rajesh Arora
Company Secretary

Encl.: a/a



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Press Release

NIIT inks strategic alliance with Microsoft to develop Cloud-ready professionals

- *Announce new programs in Cloud and emerging technologies*
- *To develop newly-skilled 1,00,000 Microsoft certified Cloud-ready professionals over the next 3 years, besides up-skilling existing professionals*

New Delhi, September 11, 2012: NIIT Limited, leading Global Talent Development Corporation and Asia's largest IT trainer, today inked a strategic alliance with Microsoft Corporation to develop Cloud-ready professionals with 21st century skills, to take on challenging assignments in the global IT industry. Under this alliance NIIT will offer new programs in Cloud and emerging technologies in association with Microsoft. This significant initiative will allow students to look at the next generation opportunities in the field of Cloud Computing, Cloud Services, and Apps development. Furthermore the benefits of Microsoft Certification integrated with NIIT programs will now be made available to students both in the retail and academic space, by NIIT.

A recent IDC study, predicts that Cloud computing will generate over 2 million jobs in the next 3-4 years. The findings predict that Cloud will generate nearly 14 million new jobs worldwide in the same time. More than 50 % of these jobs will be generated in the small and medium businesses. The alliance aims to make available skill-sets required to create a pool of Cloud ready professionals for the global IT market. It is estimated that this partnership will develop 1,00,000 newly-skilled Cloud-ready professionals over the next 3 years, in India alone.

Microsoft and NIIT – pioneers in their respective domains, have seamlessly worked together over the last 20 years to benefit the student community through their strategic alliance. Further strengthening the association, NIIT announced the first set of training programs which eventually will cover all emerging technologies from Microsoft like- SQL Server 2012®, Visual Studio 2012®, Windows Server®, Windows 8® and Windows 8 Apps, that are set to drive the Cloud momentum. A large talent pool of skilled manpower with the ability to develop Cloud Ready Applications holds the key to the success of this momentum.

According to Ms. Alison Cunard, General Manager, Microsoft Learning, *"The strategic alliance with NIIT represents over 20 years of collaboration between our two organizations. We remain dedicated to improving the lives of developers and IT professionals through training and certification and with an unprecedented Microsoft product launch cycle, collaboration with key learning partners has never been more important. As we move through our 20th year in training and certifying developers and IT Professionals, we value our partnership with the industry leaders like NIIT more than ever."*

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With the integration of Microsoft Authorized Curriculum across programs in retail and academic space, NIIT will prepare IT professionals to earn Microsoft Cloud Certification titles. Microsoft has introduced a new wave of certifications to ensure that the skill-sets remain relevant to emerging job profiles aligned to Cloud Computing. NIIT has launched the new GNIIT program on its first Cloud Campus, mapping to Microsoft certifications, thereby enabling students for specific job-roles. The new series of programs maximize career opportunities that lead to diverse career options like - Cloud Applications Developer, Enterprise Application Developer, Business Intelligence Solutions Developer, Server Administrator and Network Administrator.

Elaborating on the alliance, **Mr. G Raghavan, Chief Executive, Career Building Solutions, NIIT Limited** said, *"NIIT and Microsoft have been strategic partners for over two decades now, with the unified purpose of developing contemporary talent pool for the Global IT Industry. It is only befitting therefore that we launch programs to cater to the rising demand for cloud-ready professionals for the 21st century. We will work alongside Microsoft and launch programs mapped to the wave of new cloud technologies that Microsoft is poised to release worldwide."*

Over the two decades, NIIT and Microsoft have collaborated to introduce path-breaking technologies in India like Windows NT 4.0 and Exchange 5.0, Visual Studio and SQL Server to name a few. NIIT was the first to introduce .NET and C# as "Technology of the Year" in 2001. Post GNIIT integration in 2008 with Microsoft, NIIT has trained over 1,00,000 students on Microsoft technologies and contributed over 75,000 Microsoft Certified Professionals to the IT industry. Going forward, NIIT is aiming to make a visible impact in taking forward the Cloud momentum by using the power of Cloud technologies and bringing new customer segments into Microsoft certifications.

About NIIT

NIIT Limited, a leading Global Talent Development Corporation and Asia's premier IT trainer, offers learning and knowledge solutions across 38 countries. Leading IT journal Dataquest has conferred upon NIIT the 'Top IT Training Company' award successively for the past 19 years, since the inception of this category.

NIIT's Individual Learning Business offerings include industry-endorsed programs for students seeking careers in IT – GNIIT and Edgeineers, and Global Net Plus for IT professionals. The company has introduced "India's first Cloud campus", through its new-age GNIIT program. This offers students a higher mobility as they can access courseware using Netbooks to connect seamlessly to NIIT's Cloud Campus network.

NIIT's Corporate Learning Solutions offers Managed Training Services including integrated learning solutions (strategic consulting, learning design, content development, delivery, technology, assessment and learning management) to Fortune 500 companies, Universities, Technology companies, Training corporations and Publishing houses.



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NIIT Yuva Jyoti, a joint venture between NIIT and NSDC, offers vocational skills training programs to enhance employability of youth across India.

NIIT has provided computer-based learning to over 15,000 government and private schools. The futuristic NIIT NGuru range of learning solutions for schools comprises Interactive Classrooms, Math Lab, IT Wizard programs and Quick School (Education Resource Planning software).

NIIT Imperia - Centre for Advanced Learning, offers Executive Learning Programs in association with leading Business schools in India, KPMG, Google India and Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI), using the synchronous learning platform.

NIIT Institute of Finance Banking & Insurance (IFBI), formed by NIIT with equity participation from ICICI Bank, offers programs for individuals and corporates in FI by Aon Hewitt. The company has also been voted the second most trusted education brand in India by Brand Equity- Nielsen Survey 2011.

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