

Microsoft Strikes Strategic Partnership with Gizmo to Advance Australia's Digital Lifestyle

Co-marketing Agreement Furthers Professional Home Services and Solutions for Consumers

Sydney, NSW – 29 August, 2006 – Microsoft, the worldwide leader in software, services and solutions that help people and businesses realise their full potential and Gizmo, the support service designed to help Australians get the most out of their computer and related gadgets, today announced an in-depth marketing partnership that will bring home digital support solutions to Australians. Through Gizmo, consumers will have a fun and simple way to get the most of what Microsoft offers as it continues its drive to create an exciting new era of home technology use.

Under the partnership, Gizmo has been nominated as Microsoft's preferred supplier of home technology support and will be involved in marketing its services through a joint program with Microsoft consumer products, with a strong focus on the upcoming launch of Microsoft Vista, as part of Microsoft's Digital Lifestyle Partner Program roll-out over the coming 12 months.

David McLean, Regional Director, Entertainment and Devices Division, Australia and New Zealand, commented, "Microsoft is looking forward to kicking off our co-marketing partnership with Gizmo in Australia. Despite being some of the most technologically astute digital adopters in the world, Australians are still only using about 25% of their technology's potential. The Gizmo partnership gives consumers the confidence that they will get the most from their personal technology.

With the upcoming launch of Vista we will witness a wave of technology adoption centred on the PC. Gizmo is well placed to help those consumers connect and maximise all of their devices allowing them to focus on the rich experiences that Vista will enable, rather than on the perceived challenges of set up. Vista makes set up easier than ever, and with Gizmo on board the last piece of the technology adoption puzzle is in place."

"Gizmo is thrilled to join forces with Microsoft to make the digital lifestyle a reality for Australians," said Brett Chenoweth, Gizmo's CEO. "We are working closely with

Microsoft and have assembled a highly professional services solution designed to understand and address the unique needs of Australia's digital consumers."

Gizmo, launched its Sydney operation and nationwide phone service earlier this month and has recently completed its acquisition of Nerds for Hire, expanding its service to Melbourne. The company provides Australians with on-site home support to customise, set up and maintain computer systems, home networking, peripherals and media centre PCs.

Gizmo allows people to select from a wide list of service packages designed specifically to address the diverse needs of home technology and digital devices. Home service visits are priced¹ at a flat rate and range from \$120 to \$240 depending on the service required while over the phone service is a flat \$60 (support that requires less than ten minutes costs only \$20). Additionally, Gizmo offers a 'no fix, no fee' guarantee².

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About Microsoft

Founded in 1975, Microsoft (Nasdaq "MSFT") is the worldwide leader in software, services and solutions that help people and businesses realise their full potential.

About Gizmo

Gizmo is an Australian owned and operated company that provides comprehensive in-home and phone technical support service for a wide range of technologies used in the home. As the computer and its related gadgets become more and more a part of everyday life, Gizmo helps Australians get the most out of it.

Gizmo service is available from 8am to 10pm weekdays and 9am to 6pm on weekends. For more information or for Gizmo service, please visit www.gizmo.com.au or call 1300 275 449.

Media Contacts:

Paul Randle

Microsoft

Tel:

[email](#)

David Packman

The Sauce Agency

Tel: 0404 822 273

david@thesauce.com.au

¹Cost of additional hardware or software is not included in service fee.

² In some cases, the solution may be that the customer needs to upgrade or replace software or hardware.