



**Hessian Ministry of
Economics, Transport, Urban and Regional Development**



Press release



Wiesbaden / Germany, October 6, 2008

European Innovative Games Award 2008

**Hessian Ministry of Economics invites to Darmstadt Awards Ceremony on
November 6, 2008**

More than 70 computer and video games developed in 12 EU countries entered the competition for the European Innovative Games Award (EIGA). Adhering to the August 31 deadline, games developers, games publishers, publishing companies, freelancers, and young professionals from all EU member states submitted their proposals for the award, which comes with a total prize money of € 35,000.

The ceremony on November 6, 2008, in the "darmstadtium", the new conference center of the city of Darmstadt, is part of the "iTEC08" conference program. Visitors accredited at the "iTEC08" IT congress can use their registration to sign up for the EIGA gala event. The award, offered this year for the first time, is promoted by the Hessian Ministry of Economics, Transport, Urban and Regional Development, and Hessen IT, the ministry's initiative to support the Hessian IT industry, and the European Commission.

"We are very pleased with the remarkable positive response the EIGA competition has received right from the start. The high number and innovative quality of the proposals submitted confirm EIGA is the right approach", says Alois Rhiel, Hessian Minister of Economics. Main goal of the award is to honor the entrepreneurial courage displayed by developing innovative gaming concepts, Rhiel continues.

Until November 6, the EIGA jury will evaluate the submitted games focusing on their level of innovation, technical sophistication, content and usefulness. Members of the jury are Alois Rhiel, Minister of Economics, Transport, Urban and Regional Development of the State of Hesse; Maruja Gutiérrez Diaz, European Commission; Patrice Chazerand, Interactive Software Federation of Europe (ISFE); Olaf Wolters, Federal Association of Interactive Entertainment Software (BIU); Andre Horn, IDG Entertainment Media GmbH; and Malte Behrmann, European Games Developer Federation (EGDF).

**For further information, please see www.innovative-games.eu, and www.itec08.eu,
or contact**

Christian Flory
Hessen-IT c/o HA Hessen Agentur GmbH
Abraham-Lincoln-Strasse 38 - 42
65189 Wiesbaden, Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)611-774-8423
Fax: +49 (0)611-774-8620
christian.flory@hessen-agentur.de
