



GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA

The Cabinet Office

Department of Communication and Information

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Bermuda Government signs new agreement with Microsoft Corporation for continued use of Online Safety Materials

Minister of Energy, Telecommunications and E-Commerce (METEC), the Hon. Michael Scott, JP, MP, signed a new agreement with the Microsoft Corporation on Friday, October 22 for the continued use of the company's online safety material.

The original agreement was signed August 27, 2007 and was the first such agreement in the Caribbean region.

Today's signing ceremony permits the Government of Bermuda to continue to have access to certain content, videos and other information dealing with cyber security developed by Microsoft and was signed by both the Hon. Minister Scott and Microsoft Multi Country America's General Manager Alvaro Celis, who came to Bermuda for this purpose.

The original agreement was signed following the passing of the Criminal Code Amendment Act 2007 that provides comprehensive laws to prevent the sexual exploitation and abuse of children, especially on the internet.

The materials will continue to be used by the Department of E-Commerce primarily for the www.cybertips.bm website and also include security videos and other documents produced by Microsoft that promote safe online practices.

Minister Scott said: "We at METEC are excited and pleased to be able to continue to use these invaluable tools and materials from Microsoft. Through initiatives such as this agreement, we will continue to provide the public with the latest information and resources in our efforts to promote online safety and security for all Bermuda residents, especially our children."

Alvaro Celis, General Manager, Multi Country Americas said: "We are honoured to extend this agreement with the Department of E-Commerce on behalf of the Government of Bermuda. Security and internet safety is clearly a top priority for Microsoft. We are committed to driving innovation, building trust - and trustworthiness - in computing, so that all people can have the very best experience with our technology and can realize their full potential through the magic of software and internet services."



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Nancy Volesky, Director of E-Commerce said: “We have been working closely with the Microsoft Corporation since Bermuda co-hosted the 8th Annual Microsoft West Indian Government Conference in 2007. The ongoing partnership with Microsoft at the corporate level continues to benefit Bermuda, as the renewal of the agreement enables us to be proactive in our efforts to help combat negative cyber practices, such as cyber bullying and promote responsible digital citizenship.”