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March 14, 2016

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Subject: Press Release dated March 14, 2016

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed a copy of the press release titled "NIIT.tv - a disruptive innovation by NIIT, enters into a significant partnership with SASTRA University".

This is for your information and records.

Kindly acknowledge the receipt.

Thanking you,

Yours truly, For NIIT Limited

**Authorised Signatory** 

Encl: a/a



**Press Release** 

## NIIT.tv - a disruptive innovation by NIIT, enters into a significant partnership with SASTRA University

- To now offer industry-aligned support programs in BTech and MTech to improve learning and employability of engineering graduates
- High quality educational videos to reach out to engineering students across 140 countries, for free

New Delhi, March 14, 2016: NIIT.tv – a disruptive innovation by NIIT, will now offer support to students pursuing BTech and MTech degree programs by helping them with their curriculum and beyond, with an aim to improve employability and job readiness of engineering graduates in India. To this end NIIT.tv has entered into a significant tie-up with SASTRA University, one of the leading universities in India, situated in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu. Sessions delivered by expert faculty members of the University will be broadcast on NIIT.tv, an internet based learning portal. Programs on Biomedical Nanotechnology, Biosensors and Control Systems will be available in the initial stage and will soon expand to other engineering, management & law disciplines including coaching for competitive exams like GATE, etc.

NIIT.tv is an internet TV portal that can be accessed on a computer, tablet or smartphone anytime, anywhere. It is a democratic digital learning initiative, backed by NIIT's strong Educational Technology framework, that was launched in October last year with an aim to bring high quality training from its classrooms to every digitally connected learner, for free, at any time, place and language of their choice. The platform has received an overwhelming response with a total of 1,70,000 registered users from 142 Countries. This has prompted NIIT to go beyond its programs and provide support in other areas of higher education through strategic tie-ups.

As per a recent India Skill Report (ISR), compiled by Wheebox, PeopleStrong, LinkedIn and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), only 37 per cent of Indian graduates are employable. Educational institutions train millions of youngsters but corporates often complain that they do not get the necessary skill and talent required for a job. Therefore, it is essential that the engineering programs evolve and become more job-centric.

Between NIIT and SASTRA University, learners go through a complete multi-modal digital platform, experience free - tutorials, videos, live synchronous classes, e-books, interactivity, discussion forums, assessment, etc., thus making the combined ecosystem the richest, widest and the deepest learning environment for students pursuing BTech and MTech programs. The two learning destinations will enable a more seamless experience for their respective users in their pursuit to find learning material that is more suited to the skill sets required by the industry.

Commenting on this significant tie-up, Mr. Udai Singh, Chief Strategy Officer, NIIT Ltd. said, "We launched NIIT.tv with an aim to make available cutting-edge skill based training to every digitally connected citizen of India, by removing the four constraints of time, space, language and money. Through this significant tie-up with SASTRA University we will now use the platform to provide relevant skill sets to aspiring engineers and make them job ready for today's competitive corporate environment".

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To start with, sessions on Biomedical Nanotechnology, Biosensors and Control Systems will be available on NIIT.tv. These two programs are aligned with the need to focus on emerging & niche areas while more programs will be added from not only engineering clusters but also from management & law to make the engagement interdisciplinary & multidimensional keeping in mind the workplace demands.

Dr. S. Swaminathan, Dean of Sponsored Research at SASTRA University and head of this new collaborative initiative, said, "SASTRA's decision to leverage NIIT.tv's platform wherein to engage with a wider cross-section of learners will disrupt conventional teaching-learning mechanisms in offering quality higher education, thereby making it inclusive, affordable & accessible. This initiative is also aligned with the Government of India's digital drive and MHRD's National MOOC mission".

Since its launch in October 2015, NIIT.tv beta program has progressed well. Based on feedback from learners and the growth of courses, the course catalog has been enhanced, an intuitive learning dashboard has been introduced, and the proven cloud courseware system from NIIT's Cloud Campus has been integrated into NIIT.tv. Also the NIIT.tv Android app is now available on the Google Play Store for free download. A course configurator has also been created to enable independent authors & subject matter experts to offer their courses on NIIT.tv.

Over the last 34 years NIIT has contributed extensively to the IT sector by training 35 million people in IT and other disciplines. As a socially responsible corporate citizen, NIIT with the launch of NIIT.tv is now committing to extend that experience and expertise to service the needs of India in many other sectors, across the entire social spectrum. With over 200 people working on education-technology, NIIT is the largest EdTech company in the country actively involved in offering technologically advanced learning products and services to its customers.

## **About SASTRA University**

SASTRA University was established in the year 1984 as Shanmugha College of Engineering and conferred with Deemed University status during 2001 after it was recognised as a PG centre (1997), NBA Accredited (1997), Autonomous (1999), Recommended by AICTE (2000) and UGC (2001). With over 3 Million sq.ft. of built up area, state-of-the art infrastructure, 700+ faculty, 12,000+ students and a committed management, SASTRA has emerged has one of the finest universities in India due to its progressive growth.

The University offers various UG, PG & Ph. D programmes in Engineering, Science, Management, Law and Arts. It is recognized as a Scientific & Industrial Research Organization (SIRO) by the Government of India and is undertaking research for various agencies like DST, DBT, AYUSH, DRDO, DRDL, ISRO, BRNS, etc. SASTRA is re-accredited (III cycle) by the National Assessment & Accreditation Council (NAAC) with the maximum 'A' grade and a score of 3.56/4 making it the number one of its type in Tamil Nadu and amongst the top 10 in the country.

## **About NIIT**

Established in 1981, NIIT Limited, a global leader in Skills and Talent Development, offers multidisciplinary learning management and training delivery solutions to corporations, institutions, and individuals in over 40 countries. NIIT has three main lines of business across the globe- Corporate Learning Group, Skills and Careers Group, and School Learning Group.







NIIT's Corporate Learning Group (CLG) offers Managed Training Services (MTS) to market-leading companies in North America, Europe, Asia, and Oceania. The comprehensive suite of Managed Training Services includes custom Curriculum Design and Content Development, Learning Administration, Learning Delivery, Strategic Sourcing, Learning Technology, and Advisory Services.

With a team of some of the world's finest learning professionals, NIIT is dedicated to helping customers increase the business value of learning and development (L&D). Built on the sound principles of 'Running Training like a Business', NIIT's Managed Training Services and best-in-class training processes enable customers to align business goals with L&D, reduce costs, realise measurable value, benefit from rock-solid operations, and increase business impact.

NIIT's Skills and Careers Group (SNC) delivers a diverse range of learning and talent development programs to millions of individual and corporate learners in areas including Banking, Finance & Insurance, Soft Skills, Business Process Excellence, Retail Sales Enablement, Management Education, Multi-Sectoral Vocational Skills, Digital Media Marketing, and new-age IT. These programs are delivered through a hybrid combination of the 'Cloud Campus' online platform, satellite-based 'Synchronous Learning Technology' and a physical network of hundreds of learning centers in India, China, and select markets in Asia & Africa. The flagship multi-disciplinary course offerings include the industry-endorsed RevGNIIT program and a set of Post Graduate Programs for students from different streams, apart from a wide range of specialist short duration programs.

To further strengthen its SNC portfolio in India, NIIT has tied up with industry majors like ICICI Bank for NIIT Institute of Finance Banking Insurance& Training Limited, IFBI; leading business schools in India for NIIT Imperia; Genpact for NIIT Uniqua; and a joint venture with NSDC for NIIT YuvaJyoti Limited. Besides this, for the China market, NIIT has tied up with governments and software parks in Guian, Chongqing, Wuxi, Suzhou, Changzhou, Zhangjiagang, Haikou and Dafeng, for state-of-the-art public-private partnership centres.

Recently NIIT has introduced - **StackRoute**<sup>TM</sup>, an initiative to produce the world's best full stack programmers. StackRoute<sup>TM</sup> aims to create multi-skilled, and multi-disciplinary programmers who can become key members of high-performance teams in top notch product engineering companies, start-ups, and IT firms. Further the company has also launched **NIIT.tv** – a digital learning initiative that brings skilling from NIIT classrooms to every digitally connected Indian, for free, at any time and place of their choice. A disruptive innovation by NIIT for the education space. NIIT.tv will deliver for the very first time, skill-based live courses as well as on-demand courses to the masses, through the digital medium.

As NIIT's wholly owned subsidiary for its K-12 school learning initiative - MindChampion Learning Systems Limited, is providing technology based learning to around 2,000 private schools across India, reaching out to more than a million students. The futuristic NIIT nGuru range of learning solutions for schools comprises Interactive Classrooms with digital content, technology-driven Math Lab, IT Wizard programs and Quick School - an Education Resource Planning software.

As the Most Trusted Brand in India for 3rd year in a row (Brand Trust Report, 2015), NIIT's learning and talent development solutions, continue to receive widespread recognition globally. NIIT has been named among the Top 20 Training Outsourcing Companies for the past seven consecutive years by Training Industry, Inc. USA. Further, leading Indian ICT journal Dataquest has conferred upon NIIT the 'Top Training Company' award successively for the past 20 years, since the inception of this category. NIIT YuvaJyoti Ltd was recognized as the Best Vocational Education and Skill Development initiative at the World Education Summit, 2014.







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