

## **MULTITOUCH AND LIGHTWELL INSTALL INNOVATIVE MULTITOUCH TABLE AT NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA**

10 MultiTouch Cells Used for Exhibit on the Canning Stock Route;  
First Asymmetric MultiTouch Design for a Museum Exhibition

FOR RELEASE ON: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2010

IBC 2010, STAND #DS20, Hall 9

AMSTERDAM –MultiTouch, Ltd., developer of the world's first modular multi-touch LCD screen for large-scale displays, today announced that it has collaborated with Sydney, Australia-based interactive design firm Lightwell for the installation of a massive multitouch table at the National Museum of Australia in Canberra. The 'One Road' interactive multimedia installation is an integral part of the exhibition 'Yiwarra Kuju: The Canning Stock Route,' one of the most important collections that the Museum has yet acquired, as well as one of Western Australia's most significant cultural and artistic endeavors.

Ten 46-inch MultiTouch Cell units are arrayed in what is the first asymmetric multitouch installation for a museum exhibition. The combined units are more than 7 meters long, and enable visitors to stand around corners and collaborate with the cells as a single, connected display. The display uses the MultiTouch asymmetric design, and is developed for use by more than 20 people simultaneously.

The exhibit reclaims the Aboriginal history of the world's longest stock route, which runs for 1,800 kilometers through the deserts of Western Australia. The art and objects were produced by the Canning Stock Route Project, a four-year program developed by FORM, an independent arts organization based in Perth, brokering partnerships among the nine art enterprises and communities with direct connections to the Stock Route region. The project involves artists, traditional custodians and emerging Aboriginal curators and filmmakers whose contributions have built a powerful social and cultural repository of remote Western Australia.

The innovative experience of the MultiTouch Cell enables visitors to trace the Canning Stock Route with multitouch access to both historical and contemporary detail, including paintings, film and other cultural works, as well as a rich oral and visual record. The exhibit features more than two hours of video, more than 70 paintings, and roughly 100 separate stories by artists from the countryside surrounding the Stock Route.

The MultiTouch-Lightwell multitouch experience will be on display at the National Museum of Australia in Canberra from 30 July 2010 until 26 January 2011. The National Museum will manage its subsequent tour to selected national and potentially international venues.

MultiTouch's patented computer vision system, which reads up to 120 frames per second in bright daylight or dark environments, is complemented by software that elegantly translates touch into the programming experience, creating multitouch displays that can read unlimited touch points, including hands, fingers, fingertips and 2D Markers. The products are ideal for broadcast, retail, advertising, exhibitions, museums, education and design.

- more -

“The museum experience is greatly enhanced by multitouch applications, and we think we’ve hit a new mark with the *Canning Stock Route* installation, thanks to the flexibility of the MultiTouch Cells,” said Michael Hill, founder and director of Lightwell. “The Cornerstone software from MultiTouch enabled us to create an experience that is uniquely tailored to multiple hands touching the display.”

Introduced to the global market in 2009, the MultiTouch Cell product family has been sold in more than 30 countries. Lightwell is a reseller of MultiTouch products in both Australia and New Zealand.

“We are fortunate to work with visionary developers who inherently understand our product’s capabilities, and provide their keen insight to making it a more engaging conduit for the public’s interaction,” said Petri Martikainen, CEO of MultiTouch Ltd. “The Lightwell team was an ideal collaborative group, and we feel that the resulting installation uniquely captures the essence of multitouch.”

A video documenting the multimedia project can be viewed at <http://www.vimeo.com/14311890>

More on the Yiwarra Kuju exhibition can be found at [http://www.nma.gov.au/exhibitions/yiwarra\\_kuju/](http://www.nma.gov.au/exhibitions/yiwarra_kuju/)

More information of on the Canning Stock Route project can be found at <http://www.form.net.au/aboriginal-development/canning-stock-route-project>

Please visit the MultiTouch YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/multitouchfi>. Please also visit [www.twitter.com/multitouchfi](http://www.twitter.com/multitouchfi) for further MultiTouch updates.

### **About the Canning Stock Route MultiTouch Display**

The entire background of the display is covered by a map of the Canning Stock Route, made in 1908, by the government surveyor, Alfred Canning. The map has an eyeglass feature which magnifies areas of the map. Visitors can drag the eyeglass to view specific areas of the map, and switch the magnifier from views of the historical map to a current satellite map. Paintings, video, and text viewers are geographically located on the map close to where incidents occurred. Animals – including marsupial moles, thorny devils, knob-tailed geckos, and rainbow serpents – walk on the surface of the display, and black ants cover the surface, so that they can be tracked and squashed. An interactive sand area enables visitors to draw their own paintings.

### **About Lightwell**

Lightwell produces multimedia for museums, visitor centres and other public spaces. Most of their work is with designers, architects and large project teams in developing media projects that are integrated with public space.

Based in Sydney, Australia, they have produced programs for locations throughout the region. For further information, please visit [www.lightwell.com.au](http://www.lightwell.com.au).

## About MultiTouch Ltd.

MultiTouch is a leading developer of interactive display systems, based on proprietary software and hardware designs. The company is headquartered in Helsinki, Finland, with U.S. offices in Santa Clara, California and New York City. Its systems are currently in use in more than 30 countries around the globe. For more information, please visit [www.multitouch.fi](http://www.multitouch.fi).

# # #

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you would like a color photograph of Petri Martikainen, CEO of MultiTouch Ltd.; Michael Hill, director of Lightwell, or photos of MultiTouch products or case studies, please contact Chris Pfaff on +1-201-218-0262 or [chris@chrispfafftechmedia.com](mailto:chris@chrispfafftechmedia.com)

### **Contact:**

#### **MultiTouch**

Hannu Anttila  
+358-50-385-5515  
Hannu@multitouch.fi

Chris Pfaff  
201-218-0262  
chris@chrispfafftechmedia.com

#### **Lightwell**

Michael Hill  
+612 9319 0311  
mthill@lightwell.com.au