The Computerworld Honors Program

Honoring those who use Information Technology to benefit society

Final Copy of Case Study

YEAR:
2012

STATUS:
Laureate

Organization name:
GoGoNews

Organization URL:
www.gogonews.com

Project Name:
GoGoNews / One Laptop Per Child

What social/humanitarian issue was the project designed to address? What specific metrics did you use to measure the project's success?

GoGoNews, a web site, e-newsletter and app for school children ages 7-12 featuring headline news in a filtered, age-appropriate format, has developed a custom browser for the non-profit One Laptop Per Child. The collaboration will give children from around the globe access to the GoGoNews application from their OLPC device, regardless of Internet connectivity, and be empowered with the ability to read filtered headline news, as well as art, cultural and science coverage. Fun and entertaining extracurricular offerings such jokes and puzzles will also be available. In terms of metrics, GoGoNews will be featured in a suite of default applications on 2 million new XO devices this year.

Please describe the technologies used and how those technologies were deployed in an innovative way. Also, please include any technical or other challenges that were overcome for the successful implementation of the project.

GoGoNews developed a custom, Linux-based browser specifically for use on One Laptop Per Child XO devices, which are provided to governments at all levels, non-governmental organizations and other private sector organizations and distributed to schools and to students. The application features default starter content that can be accessed offline, enabling students to read relevant, informative news clips at any given time. Content, available in both English and Spanish, will automatically be updated from the GoGoNews web site whenever an Internet connection is available.

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Please list the specific humanitarian benefits the project has yielded so far.

GoGoNews aims to help make children aware of the world around them, whether it's an event in their immediate community or on the other side of the world. By partnering with OLPC, children are being equipped with relevant technology and content, regardless of location, to promote learning and understanding, not just of academics, but of people, countries and cultures.

Please provide the best example of how the project has benefited a specific individual, enterprise or organization. Feel free to include personal quotes from individuals who have directly benefited from the work.

The collaboration between GoGoNews and OLPC stands to benefit millions of children around the world by bringing them content that will help them gain a better understanding and acceptance of global events, cultures and customs. GoGoNews was founded by Golnar Khosrowshahi with the hope that by sharing information with her then 9-year-old twin daughters, it would spur conversation and discussion about current events, the emotions they evoke and the understanding that people might do things differently in other parts of the world.