

# MGI introduces Interactive Imaging Suite

Submitted by: Rovi Europe Ltd

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Complete suite of immersive web tools allows designers to create virtual environments with 3D objects, zoom-enabled images, 360° panoramas and interactive tours

26 March 2001: MGI, a leading provider of visual media software products and infrastructure, today revealed that it will launch MGI Interactive Imaging Suite, a new software suite providing developers with a complete set of authoring tools for the creation of virtual environments and rich media content for the web, at the New Media Show (Stand A5, 4-5 April 2001, Business Design Centre, London).

Interactive Imaging Suite combines MGI's powerful Image Server platform and high-resolution zoom functionality with the MGI Photovista family of easy-to-use, immersive imaging tools.

Stephen Mold, MGI's managing director, Europe, said, "The launch of Interactive Imaging Suite brings the full capabilities of MGI's image management and authoring tools together in one package, providing a complete solution for designers and developers at an affordable price. It is also another step in MGI's goal to make 'immersive' images commonplace on the web."

## 360° Interactive Panoramas

Using a series of overlapping still images taken from any digital camera, camcorder or from 35mm photos, MGI's powerful Photovista engine automatically adjusts and blends the images into a seamless, realistic and compact 360-degree panorama (typically less than 100k). The software supports more than 100 camera lenses, and provides the ability to create custom lenses for more realistic panoramic perspectives. It also automatically generates an HTML preview and HTML code for faster web page development.

Panoramas are royalty and licence-free, and are viewed on the web with the free Zoom Java Applet Viewer. This is included with the package and is also downloadable from MGI's web site at <http://www.mgisoft.com>

## 3D Objects

With Interactive Imaging Suite, users can stitch together a series of still images taken at various points around a solid item, to create a three-dimensional image object. For more convenience and accuracy, developers can use a digital camera to take pictures of the item by placing it on a turntable. The resulting 3D image object can then be posted on the web – for example, in an online store – enabling visitors to click on and rotate the item from all vantage points, simulating the experience of holding and examining a real product. 3D objects can also be zoom-enabled, so that site visitors are able to click and zoom into the image object to view it in closer detail from all angles.

## Virtual Tours

The 'virtual tour maker' component of MGI Interactive Imaging Suite allows developers to link panoramas using 'hotspots' – areas where a visitor can click and jump to other panoramas, image objects

or pages. Special features include text messages that appear when the mouse is moved across the page to assist navigation, and transition effects for smoother movement between 'scenes'. Combined with Zoom Image Server technology, virtual tours can also be enhanced with high-resolution detail.

### High Resolution Zooming

MGI's patented Zoom technology allows web site visitors to zoom into and pan across high-resolution images quickly and easily, regardless of connection speed and without requiring plug-ins. Panoramas, 3D objects and virtual tours can all become zoom-enabled. MGI Interactive Imaging Suite provides the capability to upload up to 175 zoom-enabled images on a single site.

### System Requirements

Operating Systems: Windows 95, 98 SE, 2000, Windows Millennium or Windows NT (Service pack 6a). Pentium 166 MHz (Pentium II or higher recommended), 64MB RAM required, SVGA Video Card, 800x600 screen area (1024x768) recommended, 16-bit Hi-Color, 100MB hard disk space.

Browsers: Internet Explorer 4.01 or higher, Netscape Navigator 4.04 or higher.

Accessories: TWAIN 16/32-bit compliant image capture device, digital camera, scanner.

### Server Requirements:

Windows: Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 (Intel only) Service Pack 6a, 80MB hard disk space for server software, additional space for images, 128MB RAM (256 highly recommended).

Solaris: Sun Solaris 2.6, 80MB hard disk space for server software, additional space for images, 128MB RAM (256 highly recommended).

Linux: Linux Red Hat 6.2 or greater, 80MB hard disk space for server software, additional space for images, 128MB RAM (256 highly recommended).

### Pricing and Availability

MGI Interactive Imaging Suite is available from authorised MGI resellers at £1,299 including VAT.

### Notes to Editors

For further information, or to request box/screen shots or images for publication, please contact: Jenny Hodge, MGI Software, tel: 01908 278106 / 07775 897360, email: [jennyh@uk.mgisoft.com](mailto:jennyh@uk.mgisoft.com)

To arrange a preview demonstration of MGI Interactive Imaging Suite at the New Media Show, please contact Jenny Hodge, as above.

MGI contact information for publication:

Tel: 01908 278100, email: [zoomserver@uk.mgisoft.com](mailto:zoomserver@uk.mgisoft.com), web site: <http://www.mgisoft.com>

New Media Show press contacts:

Fiona Montgomery Baird / Toby Nelson, Montgomery-Baird Communications

Tel: 020 7821 8980 / 0802 895 340, email: [fiona@fm-b.com](mailto:fiona@fm-b.com) / [toby@fm-b.com](mailto:toby@fm-b.com)

For further information about the New Media Show, visit [www.newmediashow.co.uk](http://www.newmediashow.co.uk)

#### About MGI

MGI is a leading provider of visual media software products and infrastructure that maximise the use of digital visual content by businesses and individuals. We do this by providing software and services that uniquely enhance every step of the visual media communications cycle, including capturing, creating, streaming, viewing, storing, sharing and publishing. Using our software, businesses and individuals create rich visual content to deliver optimal Internet experiences that communicate, drive user enjoyment and customer frequency, duration, transactions and satisfaction. With headquarters in Richmond Hill, Ontario, MGI employs over 300 people with offices in North America, Europe, and Asia Pacific. MGI Software is publicly traded on The Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol 'MGI'. In the UK, MGI is a member of the British Photographic and Imaging Association (BPIA), the Photo Marketing Association International (PMA) and The European Leisure Software Publishers Association (ELSPA).

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