HP Mobile Calculating Lab Solutions Bring Math and Science Experiments to Life

BERLIN, June 10, 2008 – HP today announced HP Mobile Calculating Lab solutions, which enable students to better connect mathematical formulas to everyday physical phenomena by easily collecting and analyzing real-world data in real time.

Targeted for middle and high school math and science students, the Mobile Calculating Lab (MCL) solutions are composed of a HP 39gs or 40gs Graphing Calculator, the HP StreamSmart 400, a variety of Fourier scientific sensors and probes, as well as calculator presentation software and classroom instruction materials.

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The sensors capture physical data such as temperature, light or sound, and the HP StreamSmart 400, which is a four-port data streamer, translates the probe signals into numerical data.

With a connected HP 39/40gs Graphing Calculator, students then analyze this data using familiar HP graphing calculator functions. By experiencing phenomenon while simultaneously seeing the data in graphical or numerical form, students can better visualize concepts such as loss of rainforest and industrial run-off into water supply.

"HP Mobile Calculating Lab solutions bring excitement back to the classroom and enhance both the teaching and learning experience," said Wing Kin Cheung, general manager, Calculator Division, HP. "Education is a key focus area for HP, and we are thrilled to deliver a powerful, easy-to-use learning tool to help build a generation of students more in tune to the world around them."

Portable and plug-and-play

With virtually no set-up or experiment trial runs, the MCL solutions help save teachers time both in the classroom and when preparing lesson plans. When the HP StreamSmart 400 is plugged into the calculator's serial port, the calculator automatically recognizes the probe type and immediately displays the stream of incoming data.

The MCL's plug-and-play simplicity and flexibility allow students and teachers to modify experiments as they go to adapt to the real world experience. In comparison, traditional data loggers require teachers to pre-determine experiment parameters for the desired outcome, which entails more time-intensive setup and a steeper learning curve.

The HP StreamSmart 400 is also up to five times smaller than traditional data loggers, which makes the solution ideal for conducting experiments outside of the classroom as well as inside. Feature highlights of the low-cost, high-performance MCL solutions include:

- Fast data collection: Easily collects data points at up to 5,000 samples per second;
- Interactive, real-time data collection: Students are able to see a continuous stream of data and can pan, zoom in and capture datasets as they happen;
- Multiple ports: Can collect data from up to four probes simultaneously for more complex experiments. All ports connect to both analog and digital probes;
- Isolate data: Ability to export selected data to the HP 39/40gs Graphing Calculators for analysis;
- Familiar analysis tools: Works with the HP 39/40gs Graphing Calculators' standard statistical analysis tools so there is no need to learn a new toolset to analyze collected data;
- Customized solutions by subject area: Provides specific solutions around physics, chemistry, biology, environment, math and general science lesson plans that include equipment and resource materials;.

In addition to HP MCL solutions, HP's portfolio of digital teaching solutions includes HP Calculator Presentation Software, which downloads to a PC and allows teachers to project a simulated calculator experience to the classroom, and HP Aplets, which are HP-exclusive tools for creating and studying functions, data, sequences and other topics.

Availability and pricing

The HP Mobile Calculating Lab solutions and the HP StreamSmart 400 are expected to be available in summer through select HP educational partners.[1] HP MCL prices vary by solution. HP StreamSmart 400 is expected to be available for an estimated U.S. street price of $99.[2]

Additional information on the HP MCL solutions is available at www.hp.com/personal. Information about HP's complete line of graphing, scientific and financial calculators, as well as on-demand training videos, computer-based training and step-by-step learning modules for each of HP's current calculators is available at www.hp.com/calculators.

About HP

HP focuses on simplifying technology experiences for all of its customers – from individual consumers to the largest businesses. With a portfolio that spans printing, personal computing, software, services and IT infrastructure, HP is among the world's largest IT companies, with revenue totaling $110.4 billion for the four fiscal quarters ended April 30, 2008. More information about HP (NYSE: HPQ) is available at www.hp.com.

[1] Availability will vary by region.

[2] Estimated U.S. street price; prices will vary.

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