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**Microsoft Certifies Surinamese IT Company**

On Monday May 2nd, 2005 **Microsoft** officially awarded **ITEE NV**, a relatively young IT company in Suriname, the **Microsoft Gold Certified Partner status**, the highest certification which can be achieved in the **Microsoft Partner Program**. With this certification **ITEE NV** became the only Surinamese IT company, the first company in the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the company with the highest certification in the West-Indies, that is certified to develop software on Microsoft platforms. **ITEE NV** also got certified for implementing and maintaining network infrastructure solutions from Microsoft.

Flavio Calonge, Partner Manager for Microsoft in the West-Indies, said that this achievement is the result of hard work and determination to achieve new horizons. *"ITEE NV accepted the challenge and raised the bar to a new level. To achieve any of the new competencies [in the Microsoft Partner Program] requires training and preparation, thus making the partner more prepared for the task they were asked to do by the customer,"* said Calonge. *"The confidence that the competencies bring to the table, makes the customers feel a lot better that they are receiving first class service, which in turn increase the business towards the partners with competencies."*

The Software Development Manager at **ITEE NV**, **Karel Donk**, was responsible for getting the company Certified at Microsoft. *"Achieving the Gold Certified partner status is a result of the efforts of various people at various departments inside the company. We've all had to come together and combine our strengths in order to be able to achieve the highest certification. This has proven to us that as a team we can be stronger and that together we can achieve higher results,"* said Donk. *"As Flavio said, our customers can now count on a higher level of expertise and better quality of the work that we do for them. We can also count on support and the ability to work more closely with Microsoft which enables us to better serve our customers."*

Gold Certified Partners are the top level of Microsoft solutions partners who have passed the highest level of requirements from Microsoft. They have the knowledge, skills and commitment to efficiently and effectively implement technology solutions that match customers' exact business needs. In addition Gold Certified Partners have access to the tools and support they need to be successful in the marketplace and have the opportunity to build the closest working relationship with Microsoft.

Achieving the Gold Certified Partner status is a significant achievement for **ITEE NV** as it acknowledges that Microsoft has certified **ITEE NV's** ability to design, develop and deploy robust and efficient software solutions on top of Microsoft platforms. It also acknowledges that Microsoft has certified **ITEE NV's** ability to deploy and maintain Microsoft's networking infrastructure solutions, such as Windows Server 2003, in a way that will help customers reduce implementation risks and costs

As the only Gold Certified ISV in the West-Indies, **ITEE NV** has the ability to develop, implement and maintain enterprise level custom-made software including Management Information Systems. **ITEE NV** specializes in building software on the Microsoft® Windows® (Mobile) platform. **ITEE NV's** software engineers have experience building software with various Microsoft technologies including Microsoft® Visual C/C++ .NET, C#, .NET Framework, MFC, SQL Server and ASP .NET. **ITEE NV** also designs, implements and supports networking infrastructures based on Microsoft technologies. With a team consisting of highly qualified technicians with years of experience, and partners such as Microsoft, HP, APC, McAfee and Symbol, **ITEE NV** can offer quality, durability and dependability to its customers.

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