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SpeedTree® RT Chosen to Bring Lush Outdoors to *The Settlers® - Rise of an Empire*

COLUMBIA, SC – SpeedTree® RT will be a vital feature in *The Settlers® - Rise of an Empire*, the sixth entry of *The Settlers* series. The title is under development by Blue Byte, a Ubisoft studio in Germany

“In *The Settlers - Rise of an Empire*, it is of utmost importance to us to be able to generate great looking, varied and lush outdoor scenes,” said game Producer Benedikt Grindel. “SpeedTree provides us with an out-of-the-box solution to both the creation and the rendering of trees and bushes, giving us the quality we require at the speed we require.”

The game takes place within a detailed, medieval world and combines some of the most popular features of previous entries in *The Settlers* series. Players may take on numerous occupations as they participate in a comprehensive economic system.

About Ubisoft

Ubisoft is a leading producer, publisher and distributor of interactive entertainment products worldwide and has grown considerably through its strong and diversified lineup of products and partnerships. Ubisoft has offices in 21 countries and sales in more than 50 countries around the globe. It is committed to delivering high-quality, cutting-edge video game titles to consumers. Ubisoft generated revenue of 680 million Euros for the 2006–2007 fiscal year. To learn more, please visit www.ubisoftgroup.com.

About Ubisoft’s Blue Byte studio

Blue Byte is one of the pioneers in the German gaming industry. Founded in 1988, with a talented team dedicated to developing quality entertainment software, Blue Byte has created two of the best known games in the history of German gaming: THE SETTLERS® and the Battle Isle® Saga. The highly acclaimed strategy game THE SETTLERS has sold 5 Million copies. In summer 2003 the series celebrated its 10th anniversary, and today Blue Byte is developing the newest episodes of THE SETTLERS® series. Blue Byte became a fully owned subsidiary of Ubisoft in 2001. To learn more, please visit www.ubisoft.de or www.bluebyte.de.

SpeedTreeRT, winner of the 2005 Front Line Award for middleware, delivers highly realistic trees and plants, with adjustable wind effects, user-configurable and seamless LOD transitions, and an included library of hundreds of tree, plant and marine models representing more than 200 core species. SpeedTreeRT includes SpeedTreeCAD, a Windows application used to create and edit animated trees in real-time.

Interactive Data Visualization, Inc. (IDV), develops software products with a focus on real-time three dimensional applications for the game development, visual simulation, engineering visualization, and animation industries. IDV, a privately held corporation, was founded in 1999 in Columbia, South Carolina. For more information about IDV, visit www.idvinc.com.

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SpeedTreeRT in *The Settlers: Rise of an Empire*

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