



PEGI installed as single age rating system for video games in the UK

Awareness campaign kicks off to encourage parents to get more involved

Brussels, 30 July 2012 – PEGI S.A., the organisation that manages the pan-European age rating system for video games, is proud to announce that PEGI has been officially designated as the exclusive age rating system for video games in the United Kingdom.

As a result of this change, it is illegal for a retailer to sell a video game with a PEGI age rating of 12, 16 or 18 to someone below that age. Up until today, games that required classification in the UK were rated by the BBFC (British Board of Film Classification), while games that were exempt from classification carried a PEGI label. The new law puts an end to this hybrid situation, installing PEGI as the sole system for classification and resulting in all new video games carrying a PEGI age rating.

PEGI is designed to help consumers, especially parents, to make informed decisions when buying video games for their families. Therefore, the change in legislation will be supported with a consumer awareness campaign, driven by [UKIE](#), the trade body representing the UK games industry, and with the support of PEGI S.A. As part of the campaign, the website www.askaboutgames.com has been re-launched as an interactive source for parents to learn more about the games their children play.

Today, the Games Ratings Authority ([GRA](#)) will also assume its position as the officially designated body in the UK for rating video games. The Video Standards Council, who are already an administrator for the PEGI system, will operate under this name when dealing with all matters concerning the age rating of video games in the UK.

Simon Little, Managing Director of PEGI S.A. is happy with the change: “Ever since the publication of Tanya Byron’s review “Safer Children in a Digital World” in 2008 have we been working towards this legal endorsement. PEGI is a straightforward and robust system and with everyone involved - trade body, publishers, administrators and retail - we will work hard to convince parents to become more involved and learn about the games their children love playing.”



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About PEGI S.A.

PEGI S.A. is an independent not-for-profit organisation responsible for the day-to-day management, supervision and development of PEGI, the pan-European age rating system for video games. The aim of PEGI is to protect minors from exposure to potentially unsuitable game content and to ensure that games are sold and advertised in a responsible manner. The administration of the system is contracted to the Netherlands Institute for the Classification of Audiovisual Media (NICAM) and the Video Standards Council (VSC).