

## AIE and Wargaming send top games and film alumni to Italy

**Sydney, Australia, May 5, 2014** - Academy of Interactive Entertainment is inviting its top alumni to a very special and important event this June in Tuscany, Italy to reconnect, network and examine innovation in education.

The event aims to cement stronger relationships between alumni and encourage ongoing involvement in the education curriculum from alumni who now hold influential roles in the games and VFX industries.

“This is going to be a fantastic event for AIE,” said John De Margheriti, AIE CEO. “We created AIE in 1996 as a non-profit organisation to grow the games and animation industry in Australia. This is both a celebration of the alumni that have blazed the trails into the industry and also a rare opportunity to reconnect and gain their valuable insights,” he enthused.

AIE alumni can be found in studios around the world including Weta Digital, Bioware, DreamWorks and Rockstar. Alumni will be flown to the event, which will run over three days in the Tuscany region. This event is being generously supported by Wargaming, the award-winning videogame developer behind World of Tanks.

“Wargaming and BigWorld have a long association with AIE providing curriculum input, expert speakers and employment opportunities for graduates,” said Stephen Wang, CEO of BigWorld. We’re proud to be able to make this event possible and are looking forward to meeting Alumni and seeing what they’ve achieved.”

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### **About AIE:**

Academy of Interactive Entertainment (AIE) is Australia's most awarded 3D animation, game design and visual FX educator. AIE pioneered the development of specialist game qualifications and continues to innovate through industry partnerships and dynamic teaching. AIE Campuses are located in Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Seattle and Lafayette.

AIE courses are practical, career-focused and delivered by industry experienced teachers in a seriously fun and creatively-demanding studio environment. AIE is the current ACT Small Registered Training Organisation of the Year and National Finalist for the Australian Small Training Provider of the Year Award.

### **About Wargaming:**

Wargaming is an award-winning online game developer and publisher and one of the leaders in the free-to-play MMO market. Founded as a privately held company in 1998, Wargaming has shipped more than 15 titles and employs around 1600 professionals across such key regions as North America, Europe, Russia, Asia and Australia.

Currently, Wargaming is focused on its team-based MMO war series dedicated to the mid-20th century warfare that will include the company's flagship armored MMO World of Tanks, launched in April 2011 and currently boasting 65 million players worldwide, the flight combat World of Warplanes, named one of the most anticipated MMOs, and the naval World of Warships, scheduled for release in 2014.

In June 2012, Wargaming announced the Wargaming.net Service, the epicenter of a battle centric gaming universe that will gather the series under a single portal — [www.wargaming.net](http://www.wargaming.net).