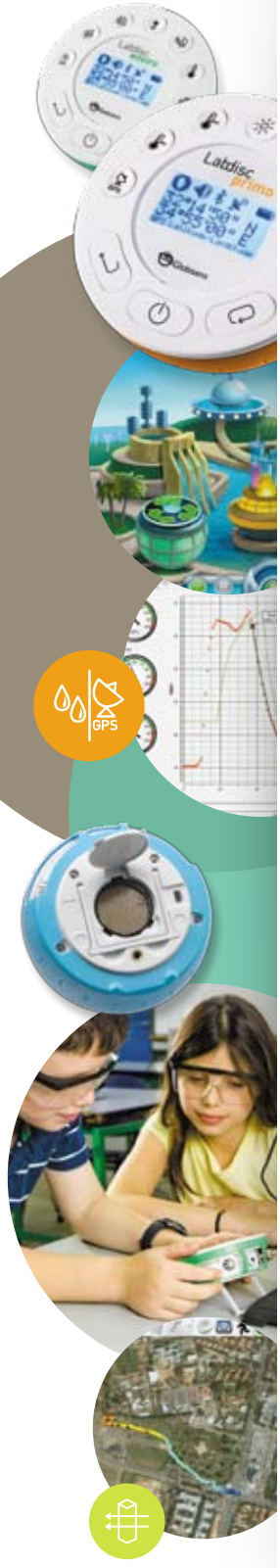
Globisens | Case Study | Labdisc

Labdisc Innovation and Quality Promote "Plan Ceibal" Core Values



Inspired by the Negroponte One Laptop Per Child program (OLPC), the internationally award winning Plan Ceibal is a Uruguayan initiative to distribute technology and promote knowledge in the public education system. The project seeks to decrease the technology gap between Uruguayans and Uruguay, and the rest of the world by improving access to technology and the quality of collaborative education. Plan Ceibal has also enhanced teacher training, backed up by extensive monitoring and evaluation models throughout every Ceibal Center.

The Challenge:

As part of the prestigious Plan Ceibal, the project leaders also looked to improve science education from elementary school right through to University. Here a solution was required that could offer more sophisticated science functionality, while still be intuitive and robust enough for very young science students.

The Solution:

Following a call for equipment and a thorough review of the available solutions, the Labdisc was selected. Magela Fuzatti, Head of Digital Laboratories, explained why the Labdisc was a clear first choice. "The quality and durable nature of the Labdisc, together with the number of built-in sensors make the product very convenient to use, even for primary school where small children can easily perform hands-on experiments without risk of breaking."

The Labdisc has been implemented in every Plan Ceibal center from K to 12 schools to universities across Uruguay's cities and countryside in farm and agricultural education projects. Together with the Plan Ceibal Labbox, the Labdisc delivers 21st century mobile science learning. In order to demonstrate measurable value, every center has presented a series of class-based and field projects showing how they use the Labdisc and built-in sensors in biology, chemistry, physics, math, geography and environmental science experiments.

The Application:

The range of Labdisc projects is as varied and interesting as it is far reaching: Incorporating rural schools where organic orchards are monitored, Agrarian Technical Schools where climate change impact on crops are studied, to unique summer

projects where learning continues after school at the beach. Here students measure water quality, pH, temperature and light - with all data referenced to the built-in GPS sensor. Students research why the temperature is different inside and outside the water or explore the issues surrounding pollution by testing pH, temperature and water quality in rivers and lakes across Uruguay.

Project leaders Alejandro Crosa and María Noel Hernández shared their thoughts on the Labdisc key benefits in the Plan Ceibal initiative.

Promoting Plan Ceibal core goals:

"The Labdisc has helped us integrate the highest standard of technological and scientific knowledge into K to 12 education. This easy-to-use tool can reach students of all ages and abilities, promoting equal access to quality science education – a core premise of Plan Ceibal."

Opening the door to different science sceneries:

"Expanding the time and location limitations of the school lab, the Labdisc makes mobile experiments possible, allowing teachers to create new learning opportunities in any location. For example, a biology class can explore science concepts in the park or by a lake and teachers can even extend learning beyond the traditional school timetable."

Collaborative learning:

"Our students present their results at national science fairs. All the participating Plan Ceibal centers take this opportunity for research collaboration, sharing their results from environmental studies performed across the country."

Integration with additional subjects:

"Based on the Labdiscs' early success we're already integrating the product with other projects like robotics where temperature and GPS references are measured by a moving robot in different locations."

Enjoyed by teachers and students:

"The Labdisc has received a very positive response from teachers and students who have quickly integrated it into every day learning and practical hands-on experimentation. On a national level we're seeing many imaginative projects come flooding in that integrate the Labdisc and full range of built-in sensors."

About Globisens

Founded on 15 years of global innovation, Globisens brings trusted industry knowledge and proven leadership in the development and production of science education tools. The launch of the Labdisc line has revolutionized the science and environmental education markets, with a 21st Century learning tool that integrates with the latest technologies and educational trends.

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