



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lenovo to Offer USA Curling Coaches Laptops

Lenovo was proud to partner with the US Olympic Committee this summer in support of our US athletes and the Team USA House. As the computing equipment sponsor of the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, Lenovo provided notebook and desktop PCs, servers, desktop printers, storage, and other computing equipment to power the Games. As a USA Curling member and certified coach you can have that power too - enjoy a special discount – from Lenovo and USA Curling when you purchase Lenovo PCs and accessories directly through USA Curling Lenovo Account. This means top of the line computers at a fraction of the cost for our certified coaches who are members of the USCA.

USA Curling has identified and designed two models, the Lenovo ThinkPad TL400 and Think Pad SL400 that will run Dartfish Software in addition to being loaded with key features. The need for top notch technology has been driven by the interest in the Dartfish software within the coaching community. In addition the demand for a computer system designed around the unique requirements of the software include certain features that are hard to find on “off the shelf” computers.

The USCA Coaching Development Director and Coaching Committee Chairman Dave Jensen in concert with Warren Pretorius from Dartfish sought to develop a method and model whereby coaches could all operate off the same technology, thereby avoiding many glitches and additional technical issues that often arise when using Dartfish on a variety of laptop platforms from manufactures. The coaching committee technology work group of Lynita Delaney and Rusty Schieber were instrumental in reviewing and benchmarking many systems-ultimately deciding to capitalize on the United States Olympic Committee’s partnership with Lenovo.

This achieves a primary goal for the development of coaching for curling in the US by providing coaches at every level access to the right, best technology at a discount.

The Lenovo TL400 will be offered with an option to have a 3 year extended warranty and with standard one year warranty. The SL400 will come with a standard one year warranty and the option for a three year extended warranty. Each unit is a discrete graphics system which is more powerful, has dedicated video memory, and is the preferred choice for 3D applications, video analysis, and media applications. Both units are equipped with a 9 cell lithium ion battery for 8 hours of on ice coverage. The distinguishing difference between the two computer systems are the hard drive speeds. The TL400 is equipped with a 200GB 7200rpm Hard Drive and the SL400 offering a 250 GB 5400rpm hard drive. The TL400 with a 7200 rpm hard drive allows for two cameras to be used with the Dartfish software in addition to faster overall speed. Each system is offered at a cost savings of 40% and comes with Windows XP professional operating system-ideal for Dartfish. For complete details see the Lenovo specifications.

All interested coaches should contact Scott Higgins, Coaching development director directly at scott.higgins@usacurl.org for contact and ordering information. All orders can be made directly via Lenovo and paid through credit card.