GLOBAL CHANCE | Uni researchers on a mission

Game to be all the rage

NHADA LARKIN

VIDEO game technology developed by a University of South Australia-owned company could spawn a multi-million-dollar enterprise.

The developers of A-Rage, an augmented reality gaming system, are in final negotiations for a manufacturing licence with two major players in the international industry.

While the talks are confidential, the two companies — with which a deal cannot be completed by the end of the year and the product to be available to consumers in about 18 months.

It was expected to retail initially at $500, including five games.

He said it could turn into a multi-million-dollar business, with A-Rage developing further augmented reality designs as well as games.

Mr Macpherson said the technology could be used for a range of applications in the entertainment industry.

A-Rage was looking for investors who may want to develop the concept further.

ALL DRESSED UP: Greg Macpherson ready to play A-Rage. Picture: MARTIN JACKA

Bank wants share cap dumped

ADELAIDE Bank shareholders will vote to remove a 10 per cent shareholding cap that dates back to the company’s general meeting next month.

The decision was put to shareholders this month, and it was decided to act as a takeover protection while the shares were trading at a discount to the share price.

Other devices which made a takeover bid impossible expired in December, 2003, but the 10 per cent limit remained.

Until late 2003, shareholders could only increase their stake by 10 per cent if they obtained 75 per cent support at a meeting with 86 per cent of shareholders present.

Managing director Barry Fitzpatrick said there were effectively no takeover hurdles at present and the move would clear up any confusion.

The board now trading at an 18-times earnings multiple, he said it was probably safe from takeover at the moment.

Shareholders will also vote on October 28 on whether to increase the payment pool for non-executive directors by $25,000, to $265,000.

CQR snare Indian contract

ADELAIDE-based information security specialist CQR Consulting has fought off competition from a South African and a Singaporean contender to win a contract with an Indian company.

The company will conduct a vulnerability analysis on the prominent bank’s online applications.

CQR Consulting managing director David Simpson said the company had faced stiff competition from Indian companies.

“Mr Macpherson said he believed the region offered other opportunities for appropriately skilled Australian companies.

“The 17 sectors are in any other part of the global economy,” he said.

“Once again, we become commoditized, the market drives down the price, so generally the lowest-cost supplier will win the work.”

SOCRATES, PANASONIC PLASMA AND PRICES WHICH BIGGAR BELIEF

The most important Greek philosopher, Socrates, never wrote down his ideas, but he did discuss them through dialogues with his pupils in Athens.

As a result, little is known about his work on ethics, politics and beauty. One can imagine him discussing these concepts with his students.

For example, if Socrates was discussing the ethics of beauty, he would expect his pupils to be asked: "What is beauty?" or "What is good?"

Socrates would respond with thought-provoking questions, encouraging his pupils to consider the implications of their answers.

The idea of "Panasonic Plasma and Prices Which Biggar Belief" could be seen as a playful reminder of the importance of philosophical inquiry.

Mr Macpherson may have chosen this headline to highlight the significance of ethical and philosophical considerations in the business world.

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