



Location in HandHeld Gaming

Gaming companies have been very creative in bringing innovative platforms and games to the market be it Sony's PlayStation, the Nintendo Wii or the Microsoft Xbox. Sony's PSP and Nintendo's DS have been pushing the innovation frontier in the portable gaming segment. Global Positioning System (GPS) technology is creating new paradigms for mobile gaming that can fundamentally change game playing.

Imagine a portable gaming device with a GPS receiver built in. Instead of playing a strategy game seated in one place, you can now be out in the real world or a forest competing against other players. GPS lets you play games in a completely new manner not possible before.



Getting your kids off the couch

Now, portable gaming devices with GPS receivers can become very handy outdoor exercise tools for kids.

With GPS device, games turn physical locations into virtual boundaries. For example, a real basketball court can be mapped into a virtual court in a GPS based game. To score a basket, the kids will now have to run faster than their virtual opponents. Similarly, to block the opponents, they'd need to move about physically. Very quickly this can become a very good workout – one that will get the kids off the couch and loving it!

Geocaching

Geocaching is another exciting GPS based game. Simply stated, Geocaching is a location enabled treasure hunt. A geocache is a hidden treasure that could be virtually anything - from a paper tag to a gold coin. A player in a Geocaching game armed with a GPS unit is challenged to locate as many caches as possible within a stipulated area or time. According to the popular Geocaching **website, <http://www.geocaching.com>**, there are more than 400,000 geocaches around the world.



Fore!

Working on your golf handicap

You could also use a GPS powered portable gaming device to improve your golf handicap. How many times have you ended with a bogey just because you miscalculated the distance? With golf courses now mapped and a GPS receiver in a handheld game, you can know the exact distance to the next hole and use the appropriate club for your drive. Step up and discover how GPS can improve your golf game.



Tapas in Latvia?

Handy Travel Guide

Travel guides now come in digital form on memory cards. With the large screens now available on portable gaming devices, you can now view the travel guide on the handheld.

With a little help from GPS your portable gaming device becomes a smarter travel guide. For example, you could search for the nearest sushi restaurant, or locate all tourist points within a radius of 1 km. And since your current location is always known, you will never get lost on the way while wandering around.

Travel can be fun again!

