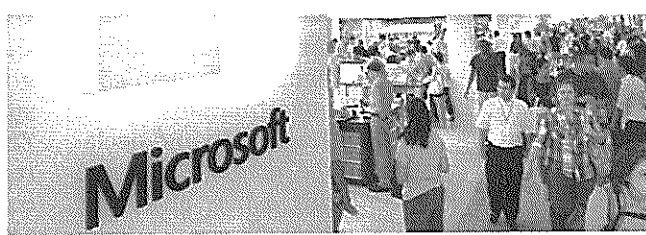


address some of the gripes people have with the latest version of the company's flagship operating system. Although the preview version of Windows 8.1 is meant for Microsoft's partners and other technology developers, anyone can download it for free starting yesterday, exactly eight months since desktops, laptops and tablets with Windows 8 went on sale. The version of the Windows 8.1 update meant for the general public will come out later in the year, though a specific date hasn't been announced.



Many of the new features have been shown off already. A three-day Build conference, which starts Wednesday in San Francisco, will give Microsoft developers a chance to learn more about the new system and try it out. It also will give the company a chance to explain some of the reasoning behind the

update and sell developers on Microsoft's ambitions to regain relevance lost to Apple's iPad and various devices running Google's Android software.

There's also speculation that Microsoft could show off a new, smaller version of its Surface tablet computers. One of the new features in Windows 8.1 is

The operating system emphasizes touch controls over the mouse and the keyboard, which had been the main way people have interacted with their personal computers since the 1980s.

But some people have been put off by the radical makeover. Although Microsoft has said it has sold more than 100 million Windows 8 licenses so far, some analysts have blamed the lackluster response to the operating system for a steep drop in PC sales in the first three months of the year, the worst drop

tion gave people quick access to programs, settings and other tasks. Microsoft replaced that with a tablet-style, full-screen start page, but that covered up whatever programs people were working on, and it had only favorite programs. Extra steps were needed to access less-used programs. Settings, a search box and other functions were hidden away in a menu that had to be pulled out from the right. How to do that changed depending on whether a mouse or touch was used.

And while Microsoft has

layout when they start up the machine and had to manually switch the desktop mode each time.

Windows 8.1 will allow people to start in the desktop mode automatically. In that mode, it is restoring a button that resembles the old Start button. Although the Start button will now take people back to the new tablet-style start screen, rather than the old Start menu, the re-introduction of the familiar button may make it easier for longtime Windows users to get accustomed to the changes.

corporate bits

GALAXY OFFERED INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES TO 41 STUDENTS



Galaxy Entertainment Group ("GEG") has been working with various educational institutes to provide internship placements for undergraduate students to apply their skills and knowledge in practical settings. 41 students have completed the program in the first half of this year and

GEG specially hosted an appreciation ceremony at StarWorld Hotel yesterday to acknowledge their hard work and contribution over the past 6 months. Joining the GEG mentors at the appreciation ceremony were representatives from the participating educational institutes, as well as a number of senior executives including Mr. Michael Mecca, President & Chief Operating Officer of GEG, Ms. Eileen Lui, Human Resources and Administration Director of GEG, Mr. Gabriel Hunterton, Deputy Chief Operating Officer of Galaxy Macau and Mr. Charles So, Deputy Chief Operating Officer of StarWorld Hotel.

CEM AND GUANGDONG POWER GRID CORPORATION HELD ELECTRIC GRID INCIDENT DRILL

To actively prepare for the upcoming power consumption peak in summer, CEM and Guangdong Power Grid Corporation Zhuhai Power Supply Bureau recently held an anti-accident drill for grid to improve CEM operating staff's capability of responding to grid incidents.

The drill was jointly organized by CEM and Zhuhai Power Supply Bureau. On that day, CEM first initiated the local generators to test the relevant procedures' response speed from receiving dispatch commands to successfully parallelize the generators to the grid. In the afternoon of the same day, CEM and Zhuhai Power Supply Bureau rehearsed

the breakdown of 220kV double-circuit interconnection from Qinyun Substation in Zhuhai to Lotus Substation in Macau. The drill simulated the sudden breakdown of 220kV double-circuit interconnection caused by external force, the emergency initiation of the backup 110kV interconnection and CEM's generators, and the gradual resumption to normal operation of the grid by the two sides.



CESL ASIA VISITED CHILDREN'S WELFARE INSTITUTE



On June 8, CEO Mr. Antonio Trindade together with his family and CESL Asia Social Investment Team paid a visit to China Fo Shan City Shun De District Children's Welfare Institute. Earlier this year, a relative of a staff member donated her private vehicle for the company internal charity bidding; Ms. Carla Pun, one of CESL Asia member, was the successful bidder. With the bidding amount,

CESL Asia donated RMB 23,000.00 to the welfare institute and offered additional supplies of vitamins, stationeries and candies that made the delight of the young ones. Fo Shan City Shun De District Children's Welfare Institute not only provides shelter for orphans, but also offers special education, health care, rehabilitation, domestic & international adoption and foster care.