

# Links 2004 FACT SHEET MAY 2003

**Title:** "Links<sup>®</sup> 2004"

Publisher: Microsoft<sup>®</sup> Game Studios

**Developer:** Microsoft Game Studios

**OFLC Rating:** G

Availability: Q 4

### **Product Overview:**

"Links," the best-selling\* golf franchise for the personal computer, has been rebuilt from the ground up exclusively for the Xbox video game system. "Links 2004" delivers one of the most realistic and competitive golf experiences for Xbox. Golf fans worldwide will have the ability to compete online in friendly matches with old golfing buddies or compete in tournaments against the best golfers in the world by utilizing Xbox Live. "Links 2004" also features top championship courses and top professionals, including cover athlete Sergio Garcia.

- **Key Features:** Playing like the pros. "Links 2004" makes players feel like real pros as they compete in tournaments broadcast in remarkably realistic TV-style presentation. Players are put in the center of intense action with commentary from TV legends.
  - **Tour of duty.** Golfers can work their way up the professional ladder online or in the challenging Tour Mode to see who really is the best in the world. Crowded galleries of fans

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cheer on players as they compete for tournament purses and tour recognition.

- **Championship courses.** "Links 2004" features some of the most luxurious and challenging golf courses in the world, including Greywolf (Alberta, Canada), New South Wales (Australia) and the Four Seasons Resort Aviara (California).
- Detailed golf environments. Players can hit the sweet spot for a 300-yard drive and roll in a 20-foot putt for a birdie, while experiencing the dew-covered fairways and crosscut greens. "Links 2004" offers gamers the ultimate golf experience. The top courses from around the world come to life with animated water, ocean surf, 3-D trees, divots, galleries of golf fans that react to players' shots, and golf course wildlife including birds, ducks, squirrels and gophers. The lifelike courses feature sun-cast shadows that change depending on the time of day, birds that are spooked when a ball hits a tree, and ducks that will scatter when a ball hits the drink.
- **Control over each and every shot.** The Real-Time Swing feature provides players with complete control over every shot, giving advanced players the opportunity to draw, fade, punch, chip or flop to win a hole. The left thumb stick acts as the club with ball physics factoring in speed, tempo, direction and course conditions in real time.
- The golfers. Golf fans can play as golf superstar Sergio Garcia or as other professional golfers to perfect their game. Gamers also can create a character with unique physical characteristics, skills, apparel and personality. Players can be aggressive and take risks or be conservative and lay up. "Links 2004" has a personality to suit every type, and each character's celebrations and audio commentary will match their personality.

#### **Developer Information:**

"Links 2004" is being developed by Microsoft Game Studios. Microsoft Game Studios is a leading worldwide games company with two core businesses: games development and publishing

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# (http://www.microsoft.com/games/) and Zone.com. Zone.com (http://www.zone.com/) is the Internet's largest game site.

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#### About Xbox

Xbox (http://www.xbox.com.au) is Microsoft's future-generation video game system that delivers the most powerful games experiences ever. Xbox empowers game artists by giving them the technology to fulfill their creative visions as never before, creating games that blur the lines between fantasy and reality. The Xbox features the most powerful graphics processor of any game console, is DVD capable, and is the only Video Games System which features a built-in hard disk, built-in broadband capability and real-time Dolby Digital 5.1 surround sound support throughout the entire game. Xbox is now available in the continents of North America, Europe, Asia and Australia.

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