

Whirlscape's tiny, space-saving Minuum keyboard learns new languages

Replacement keyboard for Android touchscreens now available in French, German, Italian



TORONTO, Canada (December 5, 2013)—Whirlscape Inc., creator of [Minuum](#), “the little keyboard for big fingers,” has rolled out beta version 1.2 to the [Google Play store](#)—with support for French, German, and Italian. This gives users of Android touchscreen devices the first opportunity to download international language modules for the innovative keyboard. Priced at \$3.99 (USD), Minuum is a tiny touchscreen keyboard which minimizes the standard keyboard layout to a continuum of letters. It lets users recover most of the screen space lost to other virtual keyboards, while allowing fast, accurate typing. Learning to type with Minuum also means being able to type with wearables and ubiquitous computing devices.

Minuum’s extremely successful [Indiegogo campaign](#) in spring 2013 raised 873 per cent of its initial funding goal. Over **1.2 million people** worldwide viewed Minuum’s teaser [video](#), and the replacement keyboard for Android earned coverage in more than 150 media outlets. Ranked by number of funders, the Minuum campaign is in Indiegogo’s top 10 of all time—and number two among all technology campaigns. Version 1.2 of Minuum follows the much-anticipated launch of the public beta for Android in August 2013. Enhancements include:

- Separately downloadable language modules for French, German, and Italian
- Improved accuracy of its magical auto-correction
- Handling of missed or inserted letters, especially in longer words
- Increased processing speed, leading to less battery usage

“We’re excited about the new language modules,” said **Will Walmsley, CEO** of Whirlscape. “Support for non-English languages has been the top feature we’ve been working on for our users, and we’ve developed the behind-the-scenes processing to ensure that, as we add more languages, users can enjoy the same experience they already have with the English-language keyboard. Given our plan to extend Minuum from touchscreens and enable typing on wearable and ubiquitous computing devices, it fits our plan to apply typing along a continuum to any language.”

The Minuum beta for Android is the first phase of Whirlscape’s project to simplify typing on mobile devices and enable interaction with wearable technology such as glasses, smartwatches, and more. Such interaction helps these devices transcend niche markets by making them truly useful to consumers.

Visit the Minuum website for an [FAQ](#) covering the most common questions about the Minuum keyboard. Background information, technical details, photos, product specifications, and more details about wearable technology can be found at [minuum.com/mediaroom](#). To set up an interview or learn more about Whirlscape’s technology, **contact Artur Sedov** (artur@whirlscape.com).

About Whirlscape Inc.

Based in Toronto, Ontario, Whirlscape is a Canadian high-technology startup with roots in human-computer interaction (HCI), machine learning, and natural language processing. Founded in June 2012, Whirlscape received seed funding from the [University of Toronto Early Stage Technology \(UTEST\)](#) program and [MaRS Innovation](#). Whirlscape develops the full-featured Minuum keyboard for touchscreens, and also prototypes wearable typing methods for integration with OEM devices.