

## **TS Focuses on Children and Education in the Czech Republic and Benelux**

When Avnet designated children and education as its top community relations priorities, two Avnet Technology Solutions (TS) EMEA locations took it to heart, raising money and collecting items for organizations that help both.

In the Czech Republic, TS sponsored three charity golf tournaments over the summer, bringing business partners together to raise 5,000€ for Children's Home Sluníčko, an organization that is home to more than 30 children without families. The money will be used to purchase equipment for children's rooms, house repairs and building a summer garden.

Additionally, TS provided more items that were on the children's wish lists, including a baby doll, bicycle, ladies watch, MP3 players, mobile phones and other toys and instruments.

"Avnet is so proud to help small children in the Czech Republic by making their lives more pleasant," says Pavel Salak, managing director of Avnet Czech Republic. "What is better than knowing you have brought happiness to children's lives?"

TS employees in the Benelux region share the sentiment – 20 of them participated in a two-day, 400-kilometer bike ride around Holland's South Sea, raising 20,000€ for Droom Boom, a Holland school for autistic children.

Droom Boom was chosen because a former employee, John Everett, has two autistic children and is passionate about getting them the help they need. "The money we raised basically allowed this tiny school to double in size," John says. "The school – whose name literally means 'Dare to Dream' – used the money to renovate the second half of the building, allowing another six children to come off the waiting list and join the school."

"Most parents with autistic kids are afraid to dream that their child can ever have a life which normal kids have," he continues. "Here for sure we made a difference – somewhere out there six kids are getting a chance they would never have had, and their parents got something they never could have hoped for as well."