Google Launches Play and Analytics in Cuba



Havana, November 26 (RHC) -- Following up on from the recent release of its Chrome browser in Cuba, Google is expanding its product offerings in the Caribbean island. The company is launching Google Play and Google Analytics in the country today.

As the United States' long-standing economic blockade heavily restricts exports to Cuba, Google is only offering free apps on Google Play, and only the free version of Google Analytics.

Third-party developers wishing to offer their free apps in Cuba will be able to do so via the Play developer console.

The move follows a short visit to Cuba by Google's Executive Chairman Eric Schmidt. The trip to Cuba was part of a series of visits aimed at promoting a free and open Internet that has also taken him to Myanmar, among other nations.

In an opinion column published shortly after his visit Schmidt criticized the U.S. blockade on Cuba and called counterproductive to Cuban and US interests.

Calling on both nations to overcome its differences Schmidt says in his article: "Cuba will have to open its political and business economy, and the U.S. will have to overcome our history and open the embargo. Both countries have to do something that is hard to do politically, but it will be worth it."

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