

Nintendo DSi users get to share pictures on Facebook

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Journalists play with Nintendo's portable video game console DSi. Nintendo said Monday that it is updating DSi software to allow users to upload pictures from the camera-equipped handheld videogame devices to hot social-networking website Facebook.

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The [Facebook](#) photo-sharing feature is to be live after 5:00 pm in California (0000 GMT Tuesday) and usable with a free system update to be available online.

"Facebook and Nintendo DSi build on the trend of personalization that is so important to consumers," Nintendo of America executive vice

president of sales and marketing Cammie Dunaway said in a statement.

"We're giving people the tools to express themselves in creative new ways and show off the results to their friends and family on Facebook."

DSi users will be able to tap an on-screen icon to send photos from DSi camera albums to Facebook profile pages by means of wireless broadband Internet connections, according to Nintendo.

The Japanese videogame titan has sold more than 1.7 million DSi devices in the United States since the third-generation of the game system was launched here in April, according to figures from industry-tracker NPD Group.

Nintendo reported last week that sales of its [Wii](#) consoles have plunged, triggering a sharp drop in recent-quarter profits after years of spectacular growth.

The company had been riding high in recent years after trouncing rivals Sony and Microsoft in the battle for dominance of the multi-billion dollar home [videogame](#) industry with its family-friendly Wii.

But the console's worldwide appeal seems to be fading: Wii sales more than halved to 2.23 million units in April-June from 5.17 million a year ago.

Demand for handheld consoles also cooled, with sales of the DS line falling to 5.97 million units from 6.94 million.

Together with a stronger yen, the weak demand pushed Nintendo's net profit down 60.6 percent in the quarter from a year earlier to 42.32 billion yen (445 million dollars), dousing hopes that the industry would be recession-proof.

Nintendo, which started out in 1989 making playing cards and brought the world Mario and Donkey Kong, has long dominated the market for handheld machines with its Game Boy and DS series.

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