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Local Industry and Higher Education Host Summer Teacher Institute

AUSTIN, Texas, June 8, 2004– Central Texas high school teachers are participating in a semiconductor institute held this week at Texas State University, Austin Community College and Applied Materials. The 17 educators will focus on improving their knowledge of emerging technologies and then create lesson plans based on their experiences to implement this fall. In return for investing in learning more about real-life applications of science and math, each teacher earns 30 professional development hours and receives up to a \$500 stipend.

“As one of the most successful industry/education partnerships in Central Texas, the support of the institute, provided by both the Semiconductor Executive Council (SEC) and the Training Foundation, fuels the mission of making education in the key areas of math and science more accessible for teachers and their students,” said John Fitzpatrick, executive director of the Capitol Area Training Foundation (CATF) and Austin Independent School District board member.

The institute curriculum is taught at separate facilities as part of a “traveling” program. On Monday, June 7th, the teachers attended an award-winning Mathworks program at Texas State University with 20 additional teachers concurrently attending healthcare and gaming institutes. Today, the educators will have the opportunity to explore automated manufacturing systems theory and design, as well as perform table-top robotics experiments and software activities in the university’s new Roy F. Mitte research complex. The teachers will visit Austin Community College’s Semiconductor Manufacturing Technology Department June 9 & 10 to get hands-on

training in industrial robotics and automated systems troubleshooting. To close out the week, the teachers will visit Applied Materials on June 11, where they will tour a cleanroom manufacturing facility, and learn about the education and career opportunities that await their students in the high-tech field. Teachers attending the institute represent the following area high schools: Deerpark, Hays, Leander, Lyndon B. Johnson, Murchison, Del Valle, Georgetown, Round Rock, Stony Point, Travis, and Westlake.

The SEC is a sponsor of the week-long institute, which is coordinated by the CATF, a 501c3 organization dedicated to workforce and education development. A SEC-member company, Samsung Austin Semiconductor, will also host a high-tech seminar next week for middle school teachers.

About the Austin-area Semiconductor Executive Council:

The SEC is a collaborative group of regional semiconductor industry executives, education leaders, and community organizations committed to workforce and education development in Central Texas, coordinated by the Capital Area Training Foundation. The SEC reflects a constituency of over 100,000 public school students, 30,000 post-secondary students, and nearly 30,000 industry employees.

The SEC corporate member companies include: AMD, Applied Materials, Cypress Semiconductor, Intel Corp., Celerity, Freescale Semiconductor, Samsung Austin Semiconductor, International SEMATECH, SEMI, and Tokyo Electron (TEL). Education members of the SEC include six local independent school districts, Austin Community College, Southwest Texas State University, the Capital Area Training Foundation, the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce and the College of Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin. The SEC also has an affiliate organization in Dallas. **www.destinationdigital.org**

Best days to visit the institute: June 9 –10 at ACC or June 11 at Applied Materials

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