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Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY SELECTS CLASSROOM CONNECT FOR ONLINE CUSTOM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

BRISBANE, CA – Oct. 14, 2005 – Classroom Connect, an educational technology division of Harcourt Inc., announced today the awarding of a contract from the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) to create a Special Education professional development program for teachers and paraprofessionals. The nine-part series will make DoDEA Special Education training available in an online, video-based, and interactive format for teachers in 13 different countries.

The DoDEA selected Classroom Connect for its “expertise in designing and developing an online course for special education professionals” and its ability to create a “comprehensive, research-based/best practices training program consistent with the mandates of No Child Left Behind.”

Classroom Connect will work collaboratively with key DoDEA content specialists to specify learning objectives, content focus, and instructional approaches. Modules will include topics such as Effective Instructional Strategies, IEPs, Assessment, and Differentiating Instruction.

“Our custom professional development solution, eSchool Online, will allow the DoDEA to reach more teachers, more effectively. The interactive professional development modules deliver consistent training focused on raising student achievement,” said Jim Bowler, President and CEO of Classroom Connect. “The DoDEA recognizes that online PD is a perfect solution for reaching teachers at its 153 sites in 13 countries. Classroom Connect is excited to be its partner in providing a cost-effective program that meets the requirements of NCLB and IDEA.”

The agreement calls for nine modules and two online learner/facilitator guides to be created using Classroom Connect’s eSchool® Online platform and content production services. The first three modules will provide instruction for special education paraprofessionals. The remaining six modules will cover key special education topics for general education teachers.

About Classroom Connect

Classroom Connect is an award-winning provider of professional development programs and online instructional materials for K-12 education and is focused on two core areas: Technology Integration and Customized Professional Development. For more information, contact Classroom Connect by calling (800) 638-1639 or visit www.classroom.com.

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Headquartered in Brisbane, CA, Classroom Connect is part of Harcourt Education, a global education provider serving students and teachers in PreK through grade 12, adult learners, and readers of all ages. Harcourt Education is part of Reed Elsevier Group plc (www.reedelsevier.com), a world-leading publisher and information provider.

About Department of Defense Education Activity

DoDEA operates 222 public schools in 15 districts located in 13 foreign countries, seven states, Guam, and Puerto Rico. All schools within DoDEA are fully accredited by U.S. accreditation agencies. Approximately 8,785 teachers serve DoDEA's 102,600 students.

Learn more about DoDEA at <http://www.dodea.edu/>

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