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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EMINTS CHOOSES CLASSROOM CONNECT FOR ONLINE CUSTOM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

BRISBANE, CA – March 10, 2005 – Classroom Connect, an educational technology division of Harcourt Inc., announced today an agreement with the eMINTS (enhancing Missouri's Instructional Networked Teaching Strategies) National Center in Columbia, Mo. to create a multi-subject professional development program for teachers. The eight part series will make eMINTS face-to-face training workshops available in an online, video-based and interactive format for teachers across the country.

“For years eMINTS has been providing our highly effective face-to-face training workshops to teachers, but a national expansion effort has been hampered by high implementation costs and a myriad of logistical issues,” said Monica Beglau, the eMINTS National Center Director. “Classroom Connect’s custom professional development platform and services will allow us to reach an unlimited number of teachers for a relatively low one-time investment.”

The agreement calls for eight modules to be created using Classroom Connect’s eSchool® Online platform and content production services. The first two modules will revolve around key Special Education topics with production to begin immediately. The remaining six modules will be produced subsequently and become two or three part series featuring other existing eMINTS instructional units.

“Our customized professional development solutions allow educational organizations like eMINTS and school districts to reach more teachers with cost-effective, consistent training that boosts student achievement,” said Jim Bowler, President and CEO of Classroom Connect. “Given eMINTS’ reputation as one of the preeminent professional development programs in the country, Classroom Connect is excited to be its partner in creating a customized online version of their award-winning content.”

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. The eMINTS project will use Classroom Connect’s Customized Professional Development solution that also includes face-to-face workshops and made-to-order conferences for K-12 educators. 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 eMINTS

The eMINTS National Center is a collaborative education program sponsored by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the University of Missouri System Office of Academic Affairs.

The eMINTS National Center serves as a resource base for Missouri schools and districts as well as for other states that wish to collaborate with eMINTS staff and with one another to replicate the eMINTS instructional model (high quality teaching powered by technology) within their educational systems.

Learn more about eMINTS at www.emints.org or (573) 884-7202.

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