

**Math, Science and Technology Students Connect Nationwide via  
New Wireless Network**  
*National Science Center Gets IP-Based Network  
Upgrade from Cisco*

**AUGUST, GA, May 11, 2007** -- Students across the country will have better access to a range of educational material at the National Science Center and in its mobile vans, thanks to a dramatic upgrade enabling an Internet Protocol-based wireless network made possible by Cisco Systems. Through this grant, announced today by the National Science Center, Cisco continues to strengthen its relationship with the NSC, a national education outreach organization with headquarters in Augusta, Georgia, that is focused on exciting America's youth about math, science and technology.

Cisco's most recent grant will build on and advance the NSC's existing network infrastructure to a fully converged IP- based wireless network, providing a full range of voice, data, video and service support capabilities throughout the Augusta headquarters facility. It is a complete interactive educational facility with over 250 hands-on science and technology exhibits, a state-of-the-art digital theater, three computer laboratories, two distance-learning facilities, a 100-seat demonstration lab, and multiple classrooms. NSC's two Mobile Discovery Center vans will also be upgraded with a similar IP-based capability, linking their mobile classrooms back to the headquarters as they travel to schools throughout the United States doing hands-on, interactive science demonstrations. Through scheduled stops between September and June, the two 18-wheelers bring the NSC to urban and rural school students just about anywhere in the continental U.S. Soldiers and Department of the Army civilians from the Accessions Command in Fort Knox, KY, who have been trained by the NSC-Army team to be demonstrators, staff the vans. The National Science Center currently stimulates the curiosity of over 130,000 students and teachers annually.

"The Army and our Nation appreciate CISCO's contribution," said Lt. Gen. Steven W. Boutelle, Chief Information Officer/G-6 of the Army. "The combined efforts of industry, the Army, and NSC, Inc. allow us to provide technology-rich education programs to help motivate our youth."

Rob Dennis, the National Science Center's chief executive officer sees the contribution as a remarkable opportunity for the NSC. "We will now be able to not only sustain but grow our Distance Learning and Professional Development programs to teachers and students, nationally and internationally, capitalizing on these technology resources by internet connectivity. Subsequently, our audience is virtually unlimited." Current

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program offerings for grades K-12 include such topics as electricity, magnetism, sound, nitrogen, and health.

“Giving back is a core tenet of Cisco’s culture,” said Brad Boston, senior vice president of Cisco’s Global Government Solutions Group. “Through Cisco’s corporate philanthropy efforts, we strive to mobilize the power of the Internet to positively affect underserved communities and individuals. The NSC’s Fort Discovery and mobile classrooms will help foster the love of science and technology in today’s schoolchildren, which is key to the future success of our nation.”

Cisco’s involvement with the NSC dates back to an earlier grant in 2004. Cisco supports organizations that are focused on basic human needs, education and responsible citizenship. The networking leader also has a deep commitment to spurring innovation and programs that encourage youth interest and involvement in technology, math and science.

**About the National Science Center**

The NSC, established by an Act of Congress is a unique three-way partnership between the United States Army, National Science Center Incorporated (non-profit), and industry/private citizens. The headquarters of the NSC is Fort Discovery, located on the Riverwalk by the Savannah River in Augusta. Fort Discovery is a family-oriented math and science center as well as the home-base for the center’s national educational outreach programs.

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