

October 2, 2008

EDITORS: The following information is for immediate release. If you have any questions, please contact Anne Morris, ITAG Project Consultant of the Chester County Economic Development Council, at 610 458-5700.

ITAG's 7th Annual TechTrek event hosted by Penn State Great Valley and Unisys

EXTON _ Penn State Great Valley and Unisys are hosting ITAG's 7th annual TechTrek event on Wednesday, October 29, 2008 from 1:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

TechTrek educates college and graduate students and recent graduates about numerous technology-related careers in Southeastern Pennsylvania. TechTrek provides each individual with instruction on how they can uniquely apply their degree in the workforce. The goal is to encourage college students to pursue technology careers in Chester County and surrounding region by showcasing dynamic companies and career opportunities.

"Technology plays a major role in the Chester County economy," said Gary Smith, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Chester County Economic Development Council. "Our employers need qualified employees. TechTrek is an excellent program that gives students valuable career information."

The supporting organizations of TechTrek are the Chester County Economic Development Council and the Chester County Information Technology Action Group (ITAG).

The presenting companies are Siemens, QVC, Comcast Spotlight and Unisys. Each company will give a business overview and explain the future of their technology needs and job openings. Representatives will also advise the students on what they look for in new-hire candidates and what hiring and educational trends they have encountered in recent years. All students will have the opportunity to interactively speak with the four companies in four 30 minutes sessions.

The social event at Unisys will give students and employers the opportunity to talk in a casual atmosphere. College students enrolled in an IT-related field, graduate students and recent college graduates can register for TechTrek at: <http://itagpa.org/techtrek.php>. Companies that are interested in participating in the social event at Unisys should contact Jim Lauckner, ITAG chairperson, at jlauckner@msn.com or (215) 470-2684.

ITAG's mission is to create and sustain a regional partnership in Southeastern Pennsylvania that encourages technology companies and companies that use technology to grow their businesses in an increasingly sophisticated global marketplace. This is accomplished by working closely with participating companies, economic development agencies, and education/training partners to leverage workforce and business development resources on behalf of ITAG members.

The Innovative Technology Action Group (ITAG) is an initiative of the Chester County Workforce Investment Board and the Chester County Economic Development Council with grant funds received from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

The Chester County Economic Development Council is a private, non-profit economic development organization that has been nurturing economic growth in Chester County and the surrounding region for more than 45 years. The Council's portfolio of business growth services includes: low-interest financing, small business lending, workforce training, retention and expansion, customized international business assistance, land and building site selection, brownfields consultation and remediation, urban redevelopment, and agricultural economic development. The Council also offers state-of-the art conference and training facilities at its brand new facility in Eagleview. For more information, see www.cceconomicdevelopment.com