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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.

TechiesDay celebrates 10th anniversary

Event for Chester County high school students provide information on technology careers

County companies will host sessions on October 8, 2008

EXTON _ Businesses throughout Chester County will be hosting sessions of TechiesDay on Wednesday, October 8, 2008.

“For the past 10 years this highly successful program has introduced almost 2,000 county high school students to careers in technology,” said Gary Smith, President and Chief Executive Office of the Chester County Economic Development Council.

TechiesDay is an event held each October to provide a vehicle for high school students to learn about technology careers and opportunities in Chester County and the surrounding region. Groups of Chester County high school students spend four hours on-site, learning about dynamic Chester County organizations, the technology that drives those organizations, and the people that drive the technology.

TechiesDay is an event sponsored by ITAG, 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.

TechiesDay was launched by ITAG in Chester County in 1998. In 2007, TechiesDay involved over 230 students, 14 high schools and 13 host organizations. For 2008 plans call for at least 14 host companies and as many as 300 students. All private and public high schools in Chester County are invited to participate in Techies Day.

Mame Linford, the School to Careers Manager at the Chester County Intermediate Unit, has been recruiting Chester County high school groups for the past 9 years. She said, “There are some very enthusiastic computer science teachers and career counselors who quickly sign up every year. They clearly see the benefit of exposing their students to the many different and diverse technology career paths available in our region. The educators and students really appreciate being invited into these companies to see the work for themselves.”

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.

