



Media Contact: Lesly Baer
800 422-3819
leslybaer@spherion.com

Technisource Launches Pilot Program Creating Technology Jobs for Students in Rural Michigan

HOUGHTON, MI - (September 7, 2005) - A joint effort between Michigan Technological University, the Michigan Tech Enterprise SmartZone, the Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance and Technisource's Michigan office, has resulted in a pilot program to hire students to provide engineering design services. Technisource plans to employ 15 MTU students initially, but foresees doubling that number before the year's end at a new office in the SmartZone's Portage Campus Building incubator. The students will perform technical engineering services for Technisource's clients under MTU's cooperative education program.

"We are excited about the opportunity to tap into the skilled workforce of students at Michigan Tech", said Sherri Pence, Manager of Technisource's Michigan office. "Not only does this program provide us access to some of the best student talent in the country, it also provides students the unique benefit of working on cutting-edge technologies."

"This is a great opportunity for these students to gain invaluable experience as they prepare for their post-college careers...With the success of this pilot program in the fields of Computer Science, Computer Engineering and Electrical Engineering, Technisource plans to expand into other technical curriculums by the end of the year," said Todd Black, Technisource Regional Vice President. Technisource's initial plan is to provide engineering design services to a client in the aerospace industry. Over the coming months, the company anticipates expansion that will provide additional student and supervisory employment opportunities as engineering contracts are established.

"This project will serve as a model for companies beginning to look into the concept of outsourcing to rural America", said SmartZone's CEO Alan West. "The use of student labor combined with the U.P.'s quality of life and relatively low overhead makes economic sense." Phil Musser, KEDA Executive Director, added, "Everyone wins on this project, and Technisource can identify talented engineers for full-time employment with the company." Technisource becomes the fourth company to locate in the Portage Campus Building operated by the SmartZone since it opened this summer.

About Michigan Tech Enterprise Corporation: The Michigan Tech Enterprise Corporation is a 501(c)(3) private nonprofit corporation and has as its mission the growth of the high-tech job base in the Upper Peninsula by commercializing technology, supporting and mentoring the growth of technology companies currently located in the region, and attracting technology companies to the area (www.mtecsmart.com).

About Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance:

The Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit corporation that supports programs focused on retaining and expanding existing firms, starting up new businesses, and initiating projects that create the conditions for future economic growth (www.kicbiz.com).

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About Technisource:

Technisource, an IntelliMark Holdings, Inc. company, provides information technology staffing and software engineering services from 31 offices across the United States. Established in 1987, Technisource offers practice-based services including Project Management, QA & Testing, Advanced Technologies and Embedded Software Engineering. Technisource also offers staff augmentation, national recruiting and direct hire services. With a customer base of Fortune 500 and middle market companies, Technisource represents a wide variety of industries including: pharmaceutical, banking and finance, telecommunications, aerospace, healthcare, insurance, retail and government. Headquartered in Little Rock, AR, Technisource has approximately 2000 employees and associates. For more information about Technisource, visit www.technisource.com.

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