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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Shell awards grant to Viva Technology program to sponsor six Viva Technology Days

Shell Oil Company has awarded the Viva Technology program $125,000 following the success of their pilot Viva Technology Day at McMain Secondary Magnet School in New Orleans, Louisiana. The grant will cover six Viva Technology Day programs at three middle schools and three high schools in Atlanta, GA, Austin TX, and the community surrounding Pennsylvania State University.

"This program is a prime example of how Shell is working to partner with programs, schools, educators, parents and the community to increase number of students choosing to pursue careers in math and sciences to ensure our industry has the skilled workforce required for the future," said Richard Wheatley, manager, Social Investment, Shell Oil Company, and vice president, Shell Oil Company Foundation.

During Shell's pilot Viva Technology program in September 9-10, 2004 at Mc Main Secondary Magnet School, engineering students from nearby Xavier and Tulane Universities, representing two chapters of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) and one chapter of The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) led teams of students through academic challenges. Shell Exploration & Production Company engineers José Francisco Mota and Tonya M. Williams served as role models and guest speakers throughout the day, giving students insight into the oil industry.

The Viva Technology program includes a 'Parent' component that outlines the program purpose and aims to reinforce the importance of an education in engineering and technology. Teachers are given a separate orientation in which they are shown methods to improve mathematic and science education.

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