PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT

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Renaissance Learning, Inc.
Advanced Technology for Data-Driven Schools™

RENAISSANCE LEARNING ANNOUNCES
STAR CONSTELLATION ONLINE STATEWIDE TESTING PLATFORM

New comprehensive standards benchmark platform will increase information and reduce testing time

July 16, 2009, Wisconsin Rapids, WI – Renaissance Learning, the leading provider of online web-based computerized tests for schools, announced today the availability of a comprehensive standards benchmark testing platform available to school districts on a statewide contract basis. The package will build on Renaissance Learning's STAR computer adaptive test platform used by over 47,000 schools.

The statewide package, called STAR Constellation™, includes the widely used STAR Reading, STAR Math and STAR Early Literacy computer adaptive tests with added item banks to test common core standards in addition to state-specific standards. STAR Constellation incorporates a new hybrid computer adaptive approach to greatly reduce the average testing time to 8-20 minutes in reading and 12-25 minutes in math compared to 50-80 minutes for typical benchmark assessments.

"This solves the biggest problems with benchmark assessments," said Terry Paul, CEO of Renaissance Learning, "Namely usability and teacher acceptance, while providing quality information on all students, and dramatically reducing the total cost of assessment."

The STAR Constellation package greatly increases the information teachers and administrators have to make data driven decisions to improve student achievement and systemic school improvement. Reports are available at all levels, including student, class, grade, school, and district for all demographic groups and programs. National norm scores, including grade equivalent, percentile, and NCE, are provided.

STAR Constellation provides the integrated computerized data system to support Response to Intervention (RTI) school improvement framework including specialized RTI reports and the up to weekly progress monitoring assessments necessary for RTI tiers 2 and 3 instructional interventions. STAR Reading and STAR Early Literacy recently received the National Center on Response to Intervention's (NCRTI) highest rating for screening assessments of all those submitted for review.

Included with all statewide contracts will be a comprehensive professional development package with "Train the Trainer" programs and seminars to build district and state capacity.

Additional low cost enhancements to STAR Constellation are a customizable state website to assist parents in selecting books for student independent reading, and a unique math facts practice and mastery tracking program for school and home use.

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About Renaissance Learning, Inc.

Renaissance Learning, Inc. is the world's leading provider of computer-based assessment technology for pre-K–12 schools. Adopted by more than 74,000 schools, Renaissance Learning's tools provide daily formative assessment and periodic progress-monitoring technology to enhance core curriculum, support differentiated instruction, and personalize practice in reading, writing and math. Renaissance Learning products help educators make the practice component of their existing curriculum more effective by providing tools to personalize practice and easily manage the daily activities for students of all levels. As a result, teachers using Renaissance Learning products accelerate learning, get more satisfaction from teaching, and help students achieve higher test scores on state and national tests. Renaissance Learning has seven U.S. locations and subsidiaries in Canada and the United Kingdom.