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Aerotek and TEKsystems Announces Support for the PhD Project to Inspire a New Generation of Diverse Business Leaders

March, 2012—The PhD Project, an award-winning program to inspire a new generation of diverse business leaders by creating a support network for minority business school faculty candidates, today announced that Aerotek and TEKsystems (operating companies of Allegis Group) have joined its roster of corporate funders with a \$25,000 annual commitment.

The PhD Project was created in 1994 to address the severe under-representation of African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans and Native Americans in management by diversifying the front of the classroom-the business school faculty. A diverse faculty encourages more minorities to pursue business degrees, thereby increasing the pool of minority applicants for positions in today's multicultural corporate environment.

Faith Johnson, Director of Human Resources for TEKsystems stated, "We are excited about the opportunity to participate in the PhD Project and look forward to working with the other partners, faculty, and students to forge strong relationships and introduce them to Aerotek and TEKsystems."

Shelton Guinn, Executive Director of Aerotek's Office of Diversity and Inclusion went on to add, "A top business priority for us as an organization is to reflect the communities that we serve. To do this we must ensure that we are aligned with a talent pool of qualified individuals with diverse perspectives and backgrounds. The PhD Project is directly aligned with this objective and we look forward to building a continued story of success."

With their commitment to The PhD Project, Aerotek and TEKsystems joins other leading corporations, foundations and associations to systemically change the face of corporate America. These organizations are involved in planning throughout the year and attend The PhD Project's six conferences to develop relationships with minority faculty and minority doctoral students who are teaching at business schools throughout the U.S.

"It is encouraging to see corporate America's support of diversity in education," said Bernard J. Milano, President of the KPMG Foundation, the founder and lead funder of the program. "Aerotek and TEKsystems support will help carry on the momentum of The PhD Project, which has more than tripled the number of minority business professors in its 18 years."

When The PhD Project was created, there were only 294 doctorally qualified African-American, Hispanic American or Native American business professors in all U.S. business schools. Today there are 1,120 minority business professors, an increase of more than 275%. Further, 371 minorities are currently enrolled in doctoral programs, and will take a place at the front of the classroom over the next few years. The PhD Project provides direct access to these individuals, so companies providing funding at or above a certain level can connect with participants and their students to share information about careers, scholarships and other educational initiatives.

Some of America's top companies, foundations, associations and academic organizations support The PhD Project along with [Aerotek and TEKsystems \(operating companies of Allegis Group\)](#). They are: [KPMG Foundation](#), [Graduate Management Admission Council](#), [Citi Foundation](#), [AACSB International](#), 265+ universities, [AICPA Foundation](#), [DiversityInc](#), [JPMorgan Chase Foundation](#), [The Goldman Sachs Group](#), [The Merck Company Foundation](#),

[Microsoft Corporation](#), [Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP](#), [Rockwell Collins](#), [Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.](#), [American Marketing Association](#), [AT&T](#), [John Deere Foundation](#), [CIGNA](#), [ADP](#), [American Express](#), [The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago](#), [California State University System](#), [The Federal Reserve Bank of New York](#), [Edison International](#), [Lincoln Financial Group](#), [Greater New York Hospital Association](#).