

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AED Accredits Two Technical Colleges

Oak Brook, Ill. – The AED Foundation officially accredited Minnesota State Community and Technical College, Moorhead, Minn., and Edison Community College, Piqua, Ohio, on Dec. 5, raising the total number of AED-affiliated colleges across the nation to 23.

To qualify for accreditation, post-secondary diesel and heavy equipment technology programs meet rigorous curriculum standards created by an AED technical committee comprised of dealer, manufacturer and academic experts. The AED Foundation is the nonprofit educational and workforce development arm of Associated Equipment Distributors.

Earlier this year, AED accredited Dakota County Technical College and recognized Central Lakes College as the first Education Alliance school.

"We are delighted to have added four technical schools to our list of accredited schools in 2008," said Steve Johnson, executive director of the AED Foundation. "We are grateful to both Minnesota State and Edison Community College for their commitment to excellence and the high standards their faculty and administrators have demonstrated to achieve AED accreditation."

Through a strategic program called "Vision 2012," the Foundation is on course to further its community-based, school-to-work program through partnerships with dozens of post-secondary heavy diesel/technical schools across the country – by the year 2012 they intend to see about 1,200 ready-to-work graduates per year launching into technical careers at dealer service departments.

About The AED Foundation

The AED Foundation enhances the success of member companies by encouraging continuous learning, by providing educational opportunities for today's employees, and by improving the quality of employees available in the future.

About AED

AED is an association of independent distributors, manufacturers and other organizations involved in the distribution of construction equipment and related products and services in North America and throughout the world. AED members sell, service and rent equipment to markets that include heavy and light construction, mining, agriculture, forestry, aggregates, engines and industrial.

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