



## National Transcript Center

### **First-Ever SIF Electronic Transcript Produced by National Transcript Center**

#### **Wyoming School District Launches New Era in Student Record Exchange; District's SIF Data Translated to SPEEDE EDI and PESC XML.**

AUSTIN, TEXAS, February 3, 2007 – The National Transcript Center (NTC) announced today that it has produced the first electronic student transcript using the Schools Interoperability Framework Association's (SIFA) 2.0 Student Record Exchange (SRE) specification. To date, no other company has successfully produced this type of transcript.

In conjunction with this milestone, NTC also announced that it is the first system to translate the new SIF standard into the most popular data formats used by postsecondary institutions. NTC's translation engine successfully converts SIF 2.0 SRE data into both SPEEDE/ExPRESS Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) and the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council's High School Extensible Markup Language Transcript (PESC XML) formats.

This ushers in a new era of student record exchange. Instead of sending paper transcripts or PDF pictures of transcripts, school districts around the country will soon be sending SIF-compliant electronic data through the National Transcript Center. NTC also facilitates the exchange of file attachments and includes a printable PDF presentation of the transcript data. This approach is of tremendous value to receiving institutions, which strongly prefer to receive raw data rather than receiving paper transcripts or PDF pictures which require laborious re-keying of information.

Translating between data standards has tremendous implications for school districts and colleges. Using the National Transcript Center, sending and receiving institutions no longer have to utilize the same data standard. Through NTC, a high school can send an electronic transcript in SIF and a college can receive that transcript in either SPEEDE/ExPRESS EDI or PESC XML.

To demonstrate its SIF 2.0 capabilities, NTC successfully converted the transcript data of Riverton, Wyoming high school students to the SIF 2.0 SRE specification. The SIF 2.0 SRE was then translated into both SPEEDE/ExPRESS EDI and PESC XML.

Mark Johnson, president of the National Transcript Center commented, "Dr. Craig Beck and the outstanding team of data analysts in Riverton could not have been more

impressive. Ten years from now there's a real possibility that almost all of the high school transcripts in the U.S. will be sent using the SIF standard, and people will remember that it was the pioneers in Riverton, Wyoming who forged this path."

"Our district is committed to continuously improving the workplace for our administrators and the customer service for our students," said Dr. Craig H. Beck, superintendent of Fremont County School District #25 in Riverton, Wyoming. "Using SIF and NTC together is a prime example of how our district finds ways to improve efficiency, reduce costs, and increase information flow."

"This is a very important Proof-of-Concept demonstration," stated Dr. Barbara Clements, chief standards officer of NTC. "NTC was built around a powerful data translation engine that links multiple standards and data formats. We look forward to the release of SIFA's test harness to demonstrate our compliance and translation capabilities with the v2.0 Student Record Exchange specification."

NTC, through its parent company ESP Solutions Group, is an established leader in the education standards community and has long supported the efforts of SIFA. Several SIFA board members and task force leaders are employees of NTC and ESP Solutions Group.

### **About the National Transcript Center**

The National Transcript Center was established to improve the efficiency, reliability, cost, and security of academic transcript exchange for K-12 schools, state education agencies, colleges and universities, and co-academic organizations. Based in Austin, Texas, the National Transcript Center is a highly secure and highly scalable trading network. NTC offers privacy and identity protection that far exceeds today's offerings.

For more information on the National Transcript Center, please visit <http://www.transcriptcenter.com/>.