For Immediate Release

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TEACHERS ATTEND FREE CAMP, LEARN HOW TO ENCOURAGE MORE STUDENTS TO PURSUE DEGREES IN SCIENCE, ENGINEERNIG AND TECHNOLOGY

NACE Foundation of Canada presents the 2nd Annual ASM Materials Camp for Teachers

OTTAWA (July 12, 2010) Last week 25 science teachers from throughout Canada and the United States attended the 2nd Annual ASM Materials Camp for Teachers at Ashbury College in Ottawa, Canada. In collaboration with the ASM Materials Education foundation, the NACE Foundation of Canada, the only organization dedicated to preparing the new generation of corrosion professionals, organized the five-day workshop. Recognizing that a decline in the number of students pursuing science-related degrees could significantly impact professionals in corrosion, engineering and technology, the camp showed teachers how to engage students in science classes using innovative approaches and experiments.

According to the ASM Materials Education Foundation, students are becoming less interested in learning science and engineering, resulting in a shortage of graduates in related industries, limiting competition and efficiency. Teachers attending the camp walked away with new ideas and innovative laboratory experiments that they can incorporate into their science curriculum to help spark students' interest.

"By making science fun again we believe that students will be more engaged and interested in learning about the related career paths that they can choose from," said Charles R. Hayes, ASM Materials Education Foundation's executive director. "Teachers at the camp learned how to use experiments that make a connection between materials encountered daily and the science that makes those materials function. We find that making that link piques initial interest and often times leads to an ongoing yearn for more knowledge."

Hayes also said that career opportunities abound in science and engineering. The corrosion industry boasts plenty of job opportunities and lucrative salaries, but many students do not consider pursing a degree in corrosion because they have heard little about it. Since corrosion was one of the main focus areas of the camp, each teacher received a Corrosion Toolkit (cKit) – a hands-on kit that can be used to challenge, inspire and educate students on corrosion science and engineering. Included in the cKit are materials needed to duplicate some of the experiments that teachers participated in during this camp.

"The corrosion industry's workforce is aging and many professionals are expected to retire in the coming years. With corrosion affecting everything and costing Canada about $30 billion annually, there is a never ending need for more professionals committed to the prevention and mitigation of corrosion," said R. Winston Revie, camp chair and NACE Foundation of Canada's president. "It is remarkable to see how many teachers took the time during their summer break to learn how they can better influence the young minds of today and the professionals of tomorrow."

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About NACE International Foundation

The NACE International Foundation is the only organization dedicated to preparing the next generation of corrosion professionals to save the world's infrastructure. The NACE International Foundation is committed to meeting the challenge of corrosion by raising public awareness, by inspiring students and educators to pursue the study of corrosion science and engineering, and by investing in scholarships, training and workforce development programs. For more information, visit www.nace-foundation.org.