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Governor Baldacci extends support for Real World Design Challenge

Maine to become one of the 25 states participating!

Governor Baldacci has extended his support for the Real World Design Challenge and two schools have announced that they will enter teams into the Design Challenge Competition. Falmouth High School and Sanford Career and Technical Education Center are the first schools to become part of this program.

There is still time to enter a team. Team entries close on November 16, 2009.

The National Governor's Association is sponsoring the Real World Design Challenge (RWDC). Fifteen additional states (for a total of 25) will be allowed to participate in the competition, making this a VERY exciting opportunity for the 2009-2010 school year. There are already 17 states signed up, including many of our New England neighbors, and participation is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Participating teachers benefit from this program. RWDC provides every teacher with 1 million dollars worth of professional quality computer-assisted design (CAD) software free of charge. Online professional development is also provided to participating educators. State teams are provided with an on-line environment to collaborate with scientists, mathematicians, and aerospace engineers across the nation using global engineering software.

Winning teams from participating states will be sent by the National Governor's Association to compete in a national challenge in Washington D.C.

Detailed information can be found <http://www.realworlddesignchallenge.org/>

Please contact Anita Bernhardt at the Maine Department of Education with any questions: anita.bernhardt@maine.gov.