3/11/99

Solutia Education Connection

Technology for Alabama Schools

- Solutia believes it is important and a sound business decision to actively support and be actively involved in the community. Solutia is interested in what it considers to be one of the single, most important issues to the community and surrounding areas – education. In Alabama, as in many other states around the country, funding for education is extremely limited. Recognizing the need for up-to-date computers in schools, Solutia has identified that need as one area in which such programs may make a real difference in the quality of the education the students will receive. We came to this recognition based on substantive conversations with education and civic leaders.

- The State of Alabama has the largest concentration of Solutia manufacturing facilities in the country. It is a very important state based on the number of employees and products manufactured there. Specifically, our communities in Alabama have identified the need for technological improvements in education, in the form of computers and related teaching aids, as a primary problem facing the education system. Solutia believes that it is important and a sound business decision to actively support initiatives that the community has identified as significant.

- The technology program will provide computers and related technology equipment to public schools in and near the Alabama communities where Solutia operates facilities. It will be funded by the Solutia Fund, the philanthropic arm of Solutia Inc.

- Eligible communities are those that are near the Alabama plants operated by Solutia. Those communities would include the following cities and surrounding counties:
  Anniston: Calhoun; St. Clair; Talledega, and Cleburne
  Decatur: Morgan; Lawrence and Limestone
  Foley: Baldwin
  These are the communities where our employees, and retirees live, and future employees will be drawn. We believe it is in everyone's interest to have a solid technology base for the workforce of the future.

- The funding will be allocated based on the projects that are submitted and need. Each of the sites will work in close coordination with their local education and civic leaders and determine where the funds may best be applied. Solutia's philanthropic arm, Solutia Fund, will determine the allocation of funding.

- Solutia's Anniston facility has been an active partner in the Anniston community for several years, providing funding for many worthwhile community projects. We have sponsored several programs for the Anniston schools including providing computers and sponsoring a tutoring program . This is a logical extension of those initiatives. The technology effort is in keeping with one of Solutia's philanthropic themes of promoting science education. This is a statewide program that includes all of the communities in state where we operate facilities. Finally, education and civic leaders identified the need for computers and teaching aids as a key issue in the community, and we are simply stepping up to the plate to address those needs.

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- We chose Calhoun County first because that is where we initiated our original program for providing computers to the Anniston schools. We decided to work with local educators who brought the need for enhanced technology to our attention. Science education has been an active theme in all of the communities where we have manufacturing facilities.

- Solutia has a history, first as Monsanto, and now as Solutia, of trying to be an integral part of all the communities where we have a presence. Many of our facilities have Community Advisory Panels comprised of a cross section of residents that engage in a dialogue on the needs of the community and how Solutia might play a role in helping the community reach some of their collective goals. Solutia is the largest supporter of United Way in Baldwin County and has supported the local school district for many years. The Decatur plant has also been a strong community advocate, and this year has engaged in a project with Sheffield Elementary School for environmental stewardship of the wildlife habitat set aside on the plant's property. This wildlife area was recently recognized by the Wildlife Habitat Environmental Conference.

- The technology program supports Solutia's long standing commitment to science and technology education for the benefit of the communities in which it has a significant presence, and where the company's employees and retirees live, and from which its future employees will come.

Solutia will always have an interest in supporting worthwhile community projects and programs benefiting its employees and residents of communities in which it operates.