

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nineteen Alabama High School Teams Participate in Aviation Challenge

MONTGOMERY, Alabama (November 30, 2011) – Following the November 18th team registration deadline, nineteen Alabama high school teams qualified to participate in the Real World Design Challenge, an annual aerospace and engineering design competition with participants from around the world.

The following Alabama schools are participating in the design challenge: Virgil L. Grissom High School-Huntsville; four teams from the US Space & Rocket Center - Space Camp / Aviation Challenge-Huntsville; Booker T. Washington High School-Tuskegee; Bob Jones High School-Madison; North Jackson High School-Stevenson; Fort Payne High School; Huffman High School-Birmingham; Prattville High School; The Way Home School-Athens; Foley High School; Austin High School-Decatur; Russellville Middle School; Calera High School; Wetumpka High School; and two teams from Brewbaker Technology Magnet High School-Montgomery.

“With this being Alabama’s first year participating in the Real World Design Challenge, the number of high schools interested has exceeded our expectations. Alabama schools will be great competitors statewide as well as nationally and I look forward to seeing their designs. Aerospace is a rapidly growing field, and, hopefully, this challenge will help prepare our students for a successful future career in the industry,” said Lt. Governor Kay Ivey, Real World Design Challenge advocate and Vice Chair of the Aerospace States Association.

The teams are using the provided \$1 million worth of professional engineering software and access to mentors from industry, government, and academia to design an efficient, low-carbon-emission and environmentally friendly personal light sport aircraft.

The submission deadline for all participants is February 6th and the aircrafts will be judged from February 7-17th. The state champion team will receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. to participate in the national design competition.

Contact:

Allison Scott

allison.scott@ltgov.alabama.gov

(334) 242-7900