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NGRAIN Virtual Aircraft Damage and Repair Solution to be used by Canadian Forces Maintaining Lockheed Martin F-35

Jul 16, 2010 02:00PM

Innovative, interactive 3D simulations support maintenance and repair for F-35 Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter aircraft

Vancouver, BC (PRWEB) July 16, 2010 -- NGRAIN, a leading provider of interactive 3D equipment simulation solutions that maximize the effectiveness of training programs and maintenance support systems, today announced its support of the Canadian government's decision to acquire the [F-35 Lightning II](#) Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) aircraft. Maintainers of the F-35 will be using NGRAIN's 3D technology as the backbone for the Low Observable Health Assessment System (LOHAS) which is designed to support the maintenance operations for the aircraft.

In 2005, NGRAIN received a \$5-million (CDN) Technology Partnership Canada investment (now run by the [Industrial Technologies Office](#)) to enhance its products and technology in support of the advanced capabilities of the F-35. This investment was used by NGRAIN to support opportunities within the JSF program and resulted in the transformation of aircraft damage assessment and repair tracking. With NGRAIN's cutting-edge Virtual Damage Assessment and Repair Tracking software, Canada's aircraft maintainers will record damage and repair information on a true-to-life 3D model of the F-35. The software, which will be delivered on a portable, ruggedized Panasonic Toughbook® computer, is designed to increase the accuracy and efficiency of the information maintenance teams' records. The solution is integrated into the F-35 Autonomic Logistics Information System (ALIS) provided to F-35 customers worldwide.

"The investment NGRAIN received from Technology Partnerships Canada gave us the resources to develop breakthrough solutions which are now being used by world-class organizations like Lockheed Martin," said Paul Lindahl, Chief Executive Officer, NGRAIN. "Today, our team is proud to know that our innovative solutions will be used by the Canadian Forces maintaining the F-35 aircraft. The international scope of the F-35 program will deliver our company's technology and products to the global market providing a significant export channel for NGRAIN solutions."

NGRAIN is used across all branches of the Canadian and United States military and by leading aerospace and Defense manufacturers and system integrators, including Lockheed Martin, CAE, Northrop Grumman and Standard Aero to increase first-time-right performance and maximize training throughput. The company, which has defined the de facto standard for interactive 3D equipment simulations, looks forward to expanding its suite of customized solutions for partners seeking to revolutionize their approach to training and maintaining complex equipment. About NGRAIN Sixty-five cents of every dollar spent on a piece of equipment goes towards sustainment. NGRAIN enables organizations to dramatically reduce these costs by maximizing the effectiveness of equipment training programs and maintenance support systems with interactive 3D equipment simulations. With NGRAIN's breakthrough 3D simulation capabilities, customers have been able to accelerate the communication of knowledge by 60 percent, and improve operational efficiency by 30 percent.

NGRAIN makes 3D attainable. With NGRAIN, Subject Matter Experts can easily produce, integrate, and distribute 3D simulations, delivering unparalleled real-time 3D interactivity over the web to everyday desktop, laptop, and tablet computers. NGRAIN makes it possible for organizations to transform how they share information, making complex ideas simpler and more accessible to all.

NGRAIN delivers solutions to a host of industries worldwide, including Aerospace & Defense, Energy, and Technology. With its proven, award-winning solutions, NGRAIN has proved to be one of the most trusted names in the realm of 3D technology. NGRAIN's customer base includes all branches of the United States and Canadian militaries, Lockheed Martin, Standard Aero, CAE and other industry leaders. www.ngrain.com

For additional information, please contact: Cerys Goodall, Public Relations Manager, NGRAIN (416) 407-2978

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Read the full story at <http://www.prweb.com/releases/NGRAIN/LockheedCF/prweb4267394.htm>.

Standard Solar CEO Tony Clifford Addresses White House Clean Energy Economy Forum

Jul 16, 2010 01:23PM

Top Administration and Business Leaders Convene to Advance New Clean Energy Technology; Clifford Champions Distributed Generation

WASHINGTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Standard Solar, Inc. CEO Tony Clifford addressed top Administration officials, including Commerce Secretary Gary Locke, during the White House's Clean Energy Economy Forum held today in the nation's capital. Clifford joined business leaders and experts from the Federal government to develop strategies that grow clean energy manufacturing and services to create jobs and build the economy.

Clifford urged policymakers not to fall victim to conventional thinking that the best place for wind farms is in the northern Great Plains and the best place for solar is in the Southwest.

"Photovoltaics and solar thermal are inherently distributed sources of power that can be used anywhere in the United States, not just the sunny Southwest. Since panels can be installed on rooftops, parking lots and ground-mounted, they provide power where it is being consumed – without the need to build expensive, long lead time transmission and distribution (T & D) systems," he stated.

Clifford said this on-site production of power, known as "Distributed Generation" will emerge as a prominent energy source that competes at the customer's retail cost of power, not the utility's cost of generation. "Distributed Generation systems in net-metered applications will be cost-competitive far sooner than huge centralized systems that rely on new T & D infrastructure," he continued.

"Policies that support Distributed Generation will create green jobs more quickly; and those jobs will be distributed throughout the country. It is imperative that we recognize that cost competitiveness with the grid will create an enormous number of new green jobs; and our policies should be focused on the quickest way to get to cost competitiveness," he concluded.

The Forum was held to discuss strategies to advance the development and commercialization of new clean energy technologies, supporting the creation and growth of emerging industries and small and medium enterprises, promoting exports, and training workers for the clean energy economy. Administration officials also discussed the need for comprehensive energy and climate legislation that will help the nation transition to a clean energy economy, create jobs and enhance America's competitiveness.

About Standard Solar

Standard Solar is a full-service developer, integrator and installer of solar electric systems for academic, commercial, government and residential customers throughout Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina. For more information, please visit www.StandardSolar.com.

WilkinsonShein Communications for Standard SolarKeira Shein, 410-363-9494keira@wilkinsonshein.com

Source: Standard Solar, Inc.

Senate Action Moves Commonwealth of Massachusetts One Step Closer to Enactment

Jul 16, 2010 01:20PM

"Agreement among the states moves one step closer to giving seventy-four percent of Americans what they want--to make every vote count in electing their President."

LOS ALTOS, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Last night, the Massachusetts Senate passed National Popular Vote legislation by a vote of 28 to 10, moving the Commonwealth of Massachusetts one step closer to giving voters an equal vote in electing America's President. The Massachusetts Senate vote follows the recent 52-7 New York State Senate vote in favor of the bill—a victory supported by a 22-5 Republican margin (with 3 not voting) and 30-2 Democrat margin.

"We are very pleased the Senate sided with more than seventy percent of Massachusetts voters in supporting the National Popular Vote bill," said Dr. John Koza, Chairman of National Popular Vote and co-author of *Every Vote Equal: A State-Based Plan for Electing the President By National Popular Vote*. "We are confident that the Commonwealth will join five other states in the compact, bringing us that much closer to giving every state—not just 'battlegrounds'—influence in electing the President."

National Popular Vote preserves the Electoral College by creating an agreement among the states. When enough states join (totaling 270 or more Electoral Votes or a majority of the Electoral College), the agreement triggers. Compacting states then award a majority of Electoral Votes to the candidate who wins the most votes in all fifty states, guaranteeing the presidency.

"Our proposal is consistent with the intent and wishes of our Founding Fathers and gives the American people what they want," said Koza. "The compact addresses the serious drawbacks of the current system of state-by-state, winner-take-all rules. It ends a system that marginalizes two-thirds of America's voters. With National Popular Vote, a vote in Massachusetts will always count as much as a vote in Florida."

Massachusetts is poised to join Maryland, Illinois, New Jersey, Washington and Hawaii as the sixth state to enact the National Popular Vote bill. Companion bills have been introduced in all fifty U.S. States.

"Thank you to all of the people who weighed in on our behalf in Massachusetts," concluded Koza. "National Popular Vote is your bill and your fight, Republican, Democrat and Independent; conservative and liberal, it's about making YOUR vote count when electing the President."

National Popular Vote Inc. is a 501(c)(4) non profit corporation whose website is www.NationalPopularVote.com.

National Popular VotePatrick Rosenstiel, 612-670-9465

Notable ETF Movers of the Day 07/16: VXX, FXI Higher; SPY, XLF, GLD Lower

Notable Analyst Rating Changes 07/16: GS, JPM, ARNA, ADM Upgraded; VVUS, BP, RBA, OREX Downgraded

Market Snapshot

Nasdaq S&P 500 NYSE

Nasdaq	2193.44	-55.64 (-2.47%)
S&P 500	1070.55	-25.93 (-2.36%)
NYSE	6744.22	-172.59 (-2.50%)

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▲+70.85K (+7.69%)



Holdings: 1.47M
Salary: Unknown

James A. Luksch
Blonder Tongue Laboratories
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▲+35.24K (+2.24%)
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Salary: 12.81M

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Source: National Popular Vote

Steve Carell's ESPYs 'Decision' Parody Draws Ire From Chili's

Jul 16, 2010 01:20PM

DALLAS, July 16 /PRNewswire/ -- Chili's® Grill & Bar, renowned for serving fired up favorites, today fired up a shot instead of the grill.

During the 2010 ESPY awards presentation, actors Steve Carell and Paul Rudd spoofed last week's LeBron James/ESPN press conference, "The Decision." The three-minute skit featured Carell, a longtime Chili's fan, sharing his difficult decision to switch to a competing restaurant chain.

Much like the citizens of Cleveland, Chili's fans and ChiliHeads across the country have begun to express their displeasure of what the chain has proclaimed the 'worst decision ever in the history of restaurant selection.'

Taking a page from Dan Gilbert's playbook, Chili's posted an open letter to fans on the brand's Facebook page. It reads in part:

"You simply don't deserve this kind of cowardly betrayal. You have given so much and deserve so much more.

I want to make one statement to you: I PERSONALLY GUARANTEE THAT CHILI'S ENTREES WILL BE BOLDER AND TASTIER THAN THAT OF THE SELF-TITLED 'STEAKHOUSE KING.'

You can take that to the smoker.

Steve Carell's shameful display of selfishness and betrayal has shifted our "motivation" to previously unknown and previously never experienced levels. His heartless and callous actions will only fuel our constant search for freshness and flavor."

Chili's loyalists are encouraged to visit the brand's official Facebook page at www.facebook.com/chilis to read the letter in its entirety and share their personal views.

Chili's Grill & Bar is the flagship brand of Dallas-based Brinker International, Inc. (NYSE: EAT), a recognized leader in casual dining. Chili's offers a fun, energetic atmosphere and a distinct, fresh mix of grilled American favorites at 1,499 locations in 30 countries and two territories. Brinker's wholly-owned restaurant brands include Chili's® Grill & Bar, and Maggiano's Little Italy®. Brinker also holds a minority investment in Romano's Macaroni Grill®. Follow news about Chili's on Facebook at www.facebook.com/chilis, @Chilis on Twitter and on YouTube at www.youtube.com/chilis. For additional information, please visit www.chilis.com.

SOURCE Chili's Grill & Bar

Fattah Says Shameful Inaction on Jobless Benefits Must End

Jul 16, 2010 01:19PM

WASHINGTON, July 16 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Congressman Chaka Fattah (D-PA), Chairman of the Congressional Urban Caucus and Pennsylvania's senior appropriator on the House Appropriations Committee, issues the following statement concerning the extension of unemployment benefits:

"Pennsylvania's unemployment rate remains unchanged at an unacceptably high 9.2 percent. That represents a lot of pain and disruption in the lives of the nearly 600,000 Pennsylvanians still looking for work -- many of them desperate for the extension of unemployment benefits that are shamefully in limbo because of Senate inaction.

"Our own Senators Casey and Specter have stepped up and advocated for righting this wrong. President Obama and Democratic majorities in both Houses have advanced stimulus programs to rebuild our nation's economy. But there are jobless breadwinners who need assistance today to keep their lives and families from collapse. Now is the time for Republican senators in other states to end their heartless obstruction and vote to restore these necessary lifeline benefits."

SOURCE Office of Congressman Chaka Fattah

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