NEWS RELEASE

East Carolina University News Services

Contact: Dr. David White, Dean of the ECU College of Technology and Computer Science

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ECU's College of Technology and Computer Science partners with Spirit AeroSystems

GREENVILLE (4/18/2011) – East Carolina University's College of Technology and Computer Science has forged a new partnership with Lenoir Community College to support several training initiatives for Spirit AeroSystems based at the North Carolina Global Transpark in Kinston, NC.

The CITE Program within ECU's College of Technology and Computer Science will collaborate and share training resources with Lenoir Community College to develop and deliver support of Spirit's Customized Training Program.

CITE, the Center for Innovation in Technology & Engineering, provides a portal to the technical resources of the college, making them more readily accessible to regional business and industry. Recently via the North Carolina Community College Systems Customized Training Program, Lenoir Community College, ECU and CITE have collaborated to provide training for Spirit employees in CATIA®, an engineering based CAD (Computer Aided Drafting) program, and ISO based GD&T (Geometric Dimensioning and Tolerancing) class, designed to help technicians read blueprints more effectively.

"We appreciate the opportunity to partner with LCC and Spirit to support economic development in eastern North Carolina," said Dr. David White, dean of the ECU College of Technology and Computer Science. "This is an example of how community colleges, universities and industry leaders can work together to promote prosperity in our region."

Lenoir Community College is playing a major role in this partnership to address and deliver training needs to support Spirit's new hires in North Carolina. Bobby Merritt, Director of Industry Training with LCC supports the Customized Training Program. The Customized Training Program was developed in recognition of the fact that one of the most important factors for a business or industry considering locating, expanding, or remaining in North Carolina is the ability of the State to ensure the presence of a well-trained workforce. The program is designed to react quickly to the needs of businesses and to respect the confidential nature of proprietary processes and information within those businesses.

Spirit AeroSystems formally opened its new 500,000-square-foot manufacturing facility in Kinston, N.C., in July 2010. Spirit employees design and manufacture the composite center fuselage section and front wing spar for the Airbus A350 XWB aircraft using state-of-the-art technology and processes.

"A big thank you goes to East Carolina University, along with Lenoir Community College, for making this happen," said Regina Parnell, Spirit AeroSystems Training Coordinator. We are so thankful for our partnership."

For more information about this training project or the collaboration between East Carolina University, Lenoir Community College and Spirit AeroSystems, please contact Dr. David White, Dean of the College of Technology and Computer Science at (252) 328-9600.