

## NEW VOCABULARY PREPPING FOR SATs

Texas Instruments, a leader in handheld educational technology, and FreeVocabulary.com, a Web site consisting of college-preparatory vocabulary words, are working to provide students with more than 5,000 vocabulary words and definitions. This Web-based application can be used via the recently unveiled TI-Navigator, wireless classroom networking system and the TI-83 Plus handheld unit.

FreeVocabulary.com is an online resource for students to use in preparation for taking the SAT. The site contains more than 5,000 vocabulary words and their definitions listed in alphabetical order. When used with the TI-Navigator system, students will be able to view the word first, then press a button to check its definition, much like a conventional flashcard format.

Through the agreement, teachers will be able to send the vocabulary lists to students' TI-83 Plus devices using the new TI-Navigator wireless classroom networking system. The vocabulary list is being formatted to use with TI's add-on software application, StudyCards, for the TI-83 Plus and TI-Navigator system. This software, and vocabulary lists from FreeVocabulary.com, is now available free on TI's Web site at <http://education.ti.com>.

## COMPTIA IT MERIT AWARDS

In celebration of Career and Technical Education Week, the Educational Foundation of CompTIA, the Computing Technology Industry Association, has announced the CompTIA IT Merit Awards. The awards program is designed to reward top-performing IT students with financial support for continuing education in the IT industry. The organization will grant each

education and government member of the association one \$250 Merit Award to be given to a deserving student who has received a CompTIA professional certification. Member organizations are encouraged to select a student who is part of an under-represented population in the IT field, including the economically disadvantaged, minorities, women and persons with disabilities.

The association hopes these scholarships will help bridge the digital divide by encouraging students of all backgrounds to pursue careers in the IT field. Compaq Computer Corp. was the first company to make a sizeable contribution to the Foundation. Nomination deadlines occur twice a year - May 15 and November 30. Each eligible member organization will be granted one award each year. For more information, please visit [http://www.comptia.org/workforce/Merit\\_awards.htm](http://www.comptia.org/workforce/Merit_awards.htm).

## NEC SCHOOL SAFETY SOLUTION

In an effort to assist public and private schools through the country address an increasing number of safety and security issues, NEC America has unveiled "Peaceable Schools", a unique program that combines discreet technology and professional staff training to help schools achieve safe, secure environments. "Peaceable Schools" offers a number of solutions to security concerns. One of these is Teacher Anywhere, a wireless telephone system that can be integrated into a school's existing telephone system, thus allowing staff to communicate with appropriate personnel from anywhere in the school. Another is the NEC Safety Suite, a broad range of applications that increase security in a discreet manner.

In addition, NEC has partnered with Educators for Social Responsibility (ESR) in the "Peaceable Schools" program. ESR will work with middle

and high school teams to develop a comprehensive plan that integrates principles of prevention into their current school improvement initiatives. ESR training in conflict resolution, social and emotional learning and diversity is considered to be some of the best in the field. For more information, call 1-800-832-6632.

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