![Oklahoma www.ok.gov logo]

![OCAST logo]

New Online Searches Provide Useful Tools for the Science & Technology Industries

OKLAHOMA CITY – August 13, 2009 – The Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology (OCAST) recently launched a new Web site, Service Provider Network and Online Intern Database available at **http://ocast.ok.gov**. The site features audio broadcasts, online registration for workshops, service providers, solicitation listings and internship opportunities in technology. Other resources for researchers, innovators and entrepreneurs also are available.

"Science and technology are critical to the future of Oklahoma," said Michael Carolina, OCAST executive director. "We built our new Web site with a focus on providing visitors with useful tools for new ideas in technology-based economic development."

The Service Provider Network enables visitors to find qualified third-party resources to develop innovative and advanced technology ideas, management services, processes or products and build commercial enterprises.

The Online Intern Database provides an avenue to increase science and technology education and experience for college students and faculty members in Oklahoma. Students have the opportunity to be connected with a potential future employer. The new system provides services for students, faculty and businesses. Advantages include the following:

- Students – search for internships based on personal criteria; place resume online for view by Oklahoma companies and receive email notifications when a new internship is posted based on specified criteria.

(more)

- Faculty – search internship opportunities at an Oklahoma applied research center; enhance experiences outside academia; continue professional development. Faculty members can sign up for email notifications for new internships.
- Businesses – post internship opportunities available at their company and search for students and faculty members who meet their specific requirements.

OCAST launched their new Web site utilizing OK.gov's Content Management System. The site is designed to meet and exceed Oklahoma's Web accessibility standards. The OCAST Web site, Service Provider Network, and Online Intern Database are products of a partnership between OCAST and OK.gov, Oklahoma's Official Web site.

About OCAST

The Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology is a state agency established to foster innovation in existing and developing businesses in Oklahoma. We accomplish this by supporting basic and applied research, facilitating technology transfer between research laboratories and firms and farms, providing seed capital for new innovative firms and their products, and helping Oklahoma's small and medium-sized manufacturing firms become more competitive through increased productivity and modernization. For more information, please visit **http://ocast.ok.gov**.

About OK.gov

OK.gov (**http://OK.gov**) built and manages the official Web site for the state of Oklahoma and partners with state and local entities to bring new government services online. OK.gov is managed by the Oklahoma Office of State Finance and eGovernment firm NIC (NASDAQ: EGOV).

About NIC

NIC is the nation's leading provider of official government portals, online services, and secure payment processing solutions. The company's innovative eGovernment services help reduce costs and increase efficiencies for government agencies, citizens, and businesses across the country. NIC provides eGovernment solutions for more than 3,000 federal, state, and local agencies that serve 97 million people in the United States. Additional information is available at **http://nicusa.com**.