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## MRIGLOBAL SUPPORTS WHITEBOARD TO BOARDROOM

For the Second Year, MRIGlobal Invests in Partnership for Research, Technology Transfer for Entrepreneurial Ventures.

Kansas City, Mo. – MRIGlobal today announced that it will serve as a partner in the Whiteboard to Boardroom program, led by the University of Missouri-Kansas City Innovation Center's KCSourceLink.

With MRIGlobal's investment, the Whiteboard to Boardroom program now has 18 institutional partners.

"We believe in fostering collaboration in science and technology as a means to growth in our community," said Thomas M. Sack, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer of MRIGlobal. "As an organization that values innovation and entrepreneurial spirit, we're proud to partner with Whiteboard to Boardroom and encourage strong relationships that can lead to business development in the region."

"MRIGlobal has a number of technical strengths and we are very pleased that they have joined as a partner," said James Baxendale, Director of the Whiteboard to Boardroom Program. The program originated in 2009 with a National Science Foundation grant with support from four founding schools – UMKC, the University of Kansas, Johnson County Community College, and William Jewell College.

The Whiteboard to Boardroom program provides a number of services to the bi-state entrepreneurial community, including the identification of CEO talent and mentors for new companies; access to innovations developed at regional academic institutions and research organizations; establishment of strategic partnerships; and identification of sources of capital.

A hallmark of the program is the <u>CEO Bullpen</u>, a clearinghouse for regional commercialization information that is available to innovators and companies alike to advance technologies to the marketplace.

For more information on the Whiteboard to Boardroom program, visit <u>http://www.umkcinnovates.com/programs/whiteboard-to-boardroom</u>.

## About MRIGlobal

MRIGlobal, a not-for-profit research and development organization, delivers solutions in global health, national security and defense, and energy and the environment. The organization performs scientific research, advanced engineering, and program integration and management for clients in government, industry, and academia. Established in 1944 as Midwest Research Institute, MRIGlobal is based in Kansas City, Mo., operates in nine states and Washington, D.C. MRIGlobal employs more than 500 and manages 2,600-plus workers through management and operations programs with government clients.

MRIGlobal is one of two partners in the Alliance for Sustainable Energy LLC, which manages and operates the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden, Colo., for the U.S. Department of Energy.

For more information, visit www.mriglobal.org.

## About KCSourceLink

KCSourceLink connects a network of virtually every business-building organizations in the 18county Kansas City region to help aspiring and existing business owners find relevant and timely. The mission is to help small businesses grow and prosper by providing easy access to needed services. Entrepreneurs and business owners can access the entire network at <u>www.kcsourcelink.com.</u>

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