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DfR Solutions Supports NSF-funded Energy Research Program with Best Practices in Solar Technology

Greg Caswell will provide guiding hand on Solar Packaging and Manufacturability

College Park, MD – March 28, 2011 - DfR Solutions, a leader in quality, reliability, and durability (QRD) solutions for the electronics industry, is very proud to announce that Greg Caswell, Senior Member of the Technical Staff, has been nominated to the Advisory Board of the National Science Foundation (NSF) funded Vertically Integrated Center for Transformative Energy Research (VICTER), a multi-campus center consisting of the University of Arkansas, University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR), Arkansas State University, and University of Arkansas Pine Bluff.

Greg Caswell has been a leading figure in electronics packaging and manufacturing for over 25 years, from being the primary author of the first book on manufacturing of surface mount electronics to his more recent role as President of the International Microelectronics and Packaging Society (IMAPS).

"It is a distinct pleasure to support the students and faculty as they develop their implementation strategies and further the leading edge of solar energy," said Mr. Caswell. "There are a number of synergies between traditional electronics and newer technologies, such as solar and light emitting diodes (LEDs), that will allow me to use my background in electronic packaging, particularly from a reliability perspective, to help provide insight into their advanced development activities. I look forward to working with such a talented group of individuals."

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"Mr. Caswell is a packaging expert and a long acquaintance of mine through IMAPS," explained Professor Ajay Malshe, the Executive Director of Materials and Manufacturing Research Laboratories and coordinator of VICTER's research activities at the University of Arkansas." VICTER is honored to welcome Greg Caswell as a member of our advisory board who will bring an industrial perspective to this strategic area for success of the center, as packaging of solar devices connects the sun to a reliable energy grid. His extensive experience in electronics packaging will make him a valuable asset to our mission." "Mr. Caswell and our entire External Advisory Board serve an invaluable role for our center in that they have a broad perspective on the field and can help ensure that VICTER's research efforts are relevant and focused and that we are aware of other opportunities for collaborations and partnering," said Alan Mantooth, VICTER's Executive Director.

About DfR Solutions, LLC: DfR Solutions has world-renowned expertise in applying the science of Reliability Physics to electrical and electronics technologies and is a leading provider of quality, reliability, and durability (QRD) research and consulting for the electronics industry. The company's integrated use of Physics of Failure (PoF) and Best Practices provides crucial insights and solutions early in product design and development and throughout the product life cycle. DfR Solutions specializes in providing knowledge- and science-based solutions to maximize and accelerate the product integrity assurance activities of their clients in every marketplace for electronic technologies (consumer, industrial, automotive, medical, military, telecom, oil drilling, and throughout the electronic component and material supply chain). For more information regarding DfR Solutions, visit www.dfrsolutions.com.

About VICTER: The Vertically Integrated Center for Transformative Energy Research (VICTER) is a multi-campus center consisting of the University of Arkansas, UALR, Arkansas State University, and UA Pine Bluff. VICTER is one of three Arkansas research centers funded through the National Science Foundation's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). This grant provides $20 million over five years, which is shared among VICTER, the Green Renewable Energy-Efficient Nanoplasmonic Solar Cells Center, and the Plant Powered Production Center. VICTER will

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use this grant to address the challenges of incorporating solar energy into the electrical grid. In order to get this energy into U.S. homes and businesses, however, several innovations are needed, including more efficient and less expensive photovoltaic materials, packaging for these materials that can withstand harsh environments, and the technology to connect low power, low voltage solar cells to the high power, high voltage electrical grid. As a vertically integrated center, VICTER can focus on all of these interconnected projects, sharing feedback from each area and coordinating the efforts of researchers.

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