



GlobalScholar

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Contacts: Eileen Demers, Excelsior Software
800-473-4572, ext. 149
edemers@excelsiorsoftware.com

Laurent Burman, GlobalScholar
425-646-5722
laurent@globalscholar.com

Working Together to Help Educators Improve Student Achievement, GlobalScholar.com Acquires Excelsior Software

*Acquisition Results in Expanded Product Suite for Schools to Manage and Facilitate
Classroom Learning*

GREELEY, Colo. and BELLEVUE, Wash. (Feb. 7, 2008) – GlobalScholar.com, a member of the Knowledge Universe family of companies, has acquired Excelsior Software, a leading provider of assessment management solutions for the K-12 education market. This acquisition will provide educators and administrators the rich Pinnacle Education Solutions suite of products offered by Excelsior Software paired with a curriculum and instructional management solution and a set of intuitive collaboration tools developed by GlobalScholar.com.

“For more than 20 years, we have been dedicated to education innovation, helping students, parents, educators, and administrators collect, analyze and act on the information they need to improve student outcomes,” said William Zaggle, president and CEO of Excelsior Software. “Now, as part of the GlobalScholar team, we have access to the resources that allow us to provide educators with an expanded set of tools and the real-time data they need to have a meaningful impact on student performance. The combination of our two products truly supports our unified vision for the future of student learning and success.”

The GlobalScholar platform enables educators to more efficiently and effectively create, manage and align content, assessments, curriculum, standards, and supplemental learning resources. The acquisition will provide educators access to both GlobalScholar’s management solution and Excelsior Software’s gradebook, reporting and analytics technology. This combination creates one application that meets the needs of educators, administrators, parents, and students as they drive student achievement.

“We believe that technology-based administrative and instructional solutions should be a seamless and thoughtful integration within the school environment,” said Kal Raman, CEO of GlobalScholar.com. “The wealth of experience the Excelsior Software team brings and the integration of our products will allow us to provide the tools educators and administrators need to confidently improve student outcomes.”

“The combination of these two products provides schools and districts the tools they need to successfully manage the learning environment,” said Tom Boyson, former San Diego County Superintendent of Schools and Kentucky Commissioner of Education. “At last, there is a

solution that brings all the pieces together – informed choices based on meaningful data not just for administrators, but for the individual classroom teacher as well.” Boyson joined GlobalScholar.com in January 2008 and will be instrumental in the development of new products and services created by Excelsior Software and GlobalScholar.com.

Launched in 2007, GlobalScholar.com offers two additional education-related services. The first is an online tutoring website, where parents and students can safely connect with trusted educators who provide one-on-one tutoring, instant homework help and self-paced learning. And the second is a set of search websites, CollegeFinder (<http://collegefinder.globalscholar.com>) and SchoolFinder (<http://schoolfinder.globalscholar.com>), which help students and parents learn about, compare and make informed decisions about schools to attend.

Excelsior Software, which has built many deep relationships during its 21-year tenure in the education industry, serves nearly 1,000 school districts, including some of the largest in the U.S., such as Miami-Dade County Public Schools (Fla.), Broward County Public Schools (Fla.) and Montgomery County Public Schools (Md.). Excelsior’s Pinnacle Education Solutions suite coupled with the resources and talent provided by the GlobalScholar.com team, will ensure educators and administrators have access to the relevant data, information and resources that will inform decisions from curriculum mapping to lesson planning.

There are no plans for internal staff changes and both companies remain committed to raising student achievement by providing immediate access to performance information, increasing teacher productivity and improving communication. GlobalScholar.com will remain headquartered in Bellevue, Wash., and Excelsior Software will remain headquartered in Greeley, Colo. The terms of the deal have not been disclosed.

About GlobalScholar.com

Headquartered in Bellevue, Wash., GlobalScholar.com is committed to providing students of all ages the confidence and control they need to make informed decisions about their education. The company develops products that effectively integrate and align the resources of education – people, technology and content – to improve efficiency and performance. These products include CollegeFinder, SchoolFinder, and GlobalScholar.com where students can select and interact with highly qualified online tutors or take self-paced courses. GlobalScholar is backed by Ignition Partners and Knowledge Universe Education. For more information, please visit <http://www.globalscholar.com> or phone 877-824-4040.

About Excelsior Software

Excelsior Software, with company headquarters in Greeley, Colo., is committed to raising student achievement by providing immediate access to performance information, increasing teacher productivity and improving communication. As the pioneer of the electronic gradebook concept in 1986, Excelsior’s experience in assessment management supports educators by delivering the technical innovations that meet the needs of today’s evolving data-driven educational system. The company’s Pinnacle software solutions automatically track and report student progress and attendance data to educators and parents at the individual, group, class, school, and district levels. Excelsior works with educators in nearly 1,000 districts

nationwide, and its Pinnacle solution is the sole student assessment management product recommended by the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD). For more information, please visit <http://www.excelsiorsoftware.com> or phone 800-473-4572.

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