

STI ADDS PROFESSIONAL COACHING TO STUDENT ASSESSMENT TO INCREASE EFFICACY

*STI introduces 'Achievement Services' to offer educators professional development
focused on using assessment data for school improvement*

MOBILE, ALA. (June 26, 2007) – Since NCLB was enacted, schools have begun collecting and tracking student performance data through newly acquired assessment systems. However, educators often face the challenge of analyzing and using the data to improve student learning with little training or prior experience. In response to customer demand, STI, a leading provider of education data management systems, today launches *STI Achievement Services*. Created as an integral component of the company's assessment business, the new offering is a blended model of face-to-face and web-based professional development for instructors using best practices to facilitate increases in student achievement.

“Educators have a wealth of assessment data at their fingertips, and they want more training on how to use the data effectively,” said Rob Fiance, CEO of STI. “*STI Achievement Services* is a part of a comprehensive program that offers both analysis of student assessments and professional development sessions to address achievement shortfalls with specific, practical and research-based strategies that positively affect learning outcomes.”

The company's new offering is led by a team of skilled school improvement specialists and veteran educators, with a combined total of more than 50 years of experience. The team will help schools conduct formative assessment as part of an ongoing school or district-wide program and use evidence of student learning to implement instructional modifications or adaptations. Research shows that formative assessment is one of the most effective education interventions in raising student achievement.

STI has leveraged its proprietary software, *STI Assessment*, to provide insight into student achievement that changes how administrators and teachers perceive and use data. *STI Assessment* is a web-based system that enables schools and districts to create, administer, track, and report formative assessment data. The company's assessment solution easily integrates with *InformationNOW*®, its web-based student information system, to eliminate double data entry and provide more accurate data collection. Data integration also enables districts to track student progress over time and across student populations to perform comparisons and identify trends.

Since it debuted in 2004, hundreds of schools have purchased and implemented *STI Assessment*. Most recently, the Alabama Department of Education selected *STI Assessment* as part of its efforts to help schools “in need of improvement” meet AYP requirements.

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Together, *STI Achievement Services* and *STI Assessment* offer schools and districts a complete assessment solution that is adapted to meet local and state standards and fit their specific needs.

STI Achievement Services is customized to fit the customer's needs based on school or district size, personnel involvement and subject areas. It is available as an add-on package or bundled as a complete solution with *STI Assessment*.

For more information, visit www.sti-k-12.com or phone 800-844-0884.

About STI

STI is a leading provider of Education Data Management solutions to the K-12 market. STI's fully integrated suite of products addresses attendance, scheduling, special education, assessment, discipline, grade reporting, professional development, fund accounting, health, and parent/teacher communications. More than 6,000 schools in 28 states use STI solutions. The company was founded in 1982 and is headquartered in Mobile, Ala. For more information, phone 800-844-0884 or visit www.sti-k12.com.

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