Media Release
Communiqué

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Queen's University Students Win National Award for Automotive Research

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 21, 2005

Toronto, ON: At a ceremony held last night, a team of Queen's University students was recognized for its innovative automotive research. The team won first-place honours in the Highly Qualified People Poster Competition at the AUTO21 Scientific Conference in Toronto, Ontario. AUTO21 is a federal Network of Centres of Excellence focusing on automotive research. With an annual research budget of approximately $12 million in federal and industry funding, AUTO21 supports more than 230 researchers and close to 400 student researchers (or Highly Qualified People – HQP) who contribute to 41 research projects at 35 universities across Canada

The winning team participates on the Chemical Hydrogen Storage Process Development project, which investigates ways to store hydrogen for fuel cells on vehicles. Specifically, they are investigating the use of sodium borohydride as a source of hydrogen to power fuel cells. n-vehicle hydrogen storage is a significant challenge to the move to hydrogen-powered vehicles.

"The AUTO21 student researchers are the key to the future of Canada's automotive sector," said Dr. Peter Frise, AUTO21 Program Leader and CEO. "Based on the excellent research presented by the team entries, it is clear the future will be successful."

The annual HQP Poster Competition features a total prize purse of approximately $20,000. The prizes were divided between the final round of judging which occurred on June 20 and previous evaluation rounds held at an earlier event in May. A group of international scientific experts selected the Queen's University team from a group of four finalist teams following an oral and written presentation. The four finalist teams were selected from a pool of more than 60 entries. The Queen's University team received $4,500 in cash, with the other teams receiving cash prizes as well.

Final Placement of Student Teams

First	Chemical Hydrogen Storage Process Development	Queen's University	$4,500
Second	Reformer Technology for Fuel Cell Power Systems	Queen's University and Royal Military College	$3,000
Third	Canadian Automobile Research Simulation	University of Calgary	$1,500
Fourth	Tools, Dies and Moulds	Queen's University	$1,000

Networks of Centres of Excellence are unique partnerships among universities, industry, government and non-governmental organizations aimed at turning Canadian research and entrepreneurial talent into economic

and social benefits for all Canadians. An integral part of the federal government's Innovation Strategy, these nation-wide, multidisciplinary and multisectorial research partnerships connect excellent research with industrial know-how and strategic investment.

Three Canadian federal granting agencies - the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) - and Industry Canada combine their efforts to support and oversee the NCE initiative.

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