

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NAFTC Names Advanced Electric Drive Vehicle Education **Program Advisory Committee Members**

Group Helps Educate America About Advanced Electric Drive Vehicles

MORGANTOWN, W. Va. – The National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium, a program of West Virginia University, announced members of the Advanced Electric Drive Vehicle Education Program Advisory Committee.

The NAFTC recently hosted the first meeting of the committee members, all of whom are experts in the advanced electric drive vehicles field and/or in training, or outreach and education.

"It was an honor to meet with the Advisory Committee members as a group, to gather their input regarding our project," Ebron noted. "I am pleased to work with them and to put their ideas into action over the course of the three-year program."

The Advanced Electric Drive Vehicle Education Program, funded by a U.S. Department of Energy award under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, is a public-private partnership with the mission of "Educating America on Next Generation Vehicles," specifically battery electric vehicles, hybrid electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and fuel cell electric vehicles. Examples of items the program will feature include curricula, training, outreach and education activities, Web-driven simulators, a Web site and support of National Alternative Fuel Vehicle Day Odyssey.

During the recent meeting, Ebron discussed with the committee the current status of the project including items that have been completed, elements that are in process and items that will be completed in the future.

"We, at the NAFTC, will benefit from the committee members' ideas, especially regarding curriculum," Ebron added. "These individuals have experience in education, fire service, automotive and infrastructure industries; project management; marketing; and with federal and state governments. Their expertise will help us make the program more relevant, user-friendly and technically accurate."

In addition to Ebron, who is an ex-officio member and the principal investigator for the project, the Advisory Committee includes the following individuals:

- Lanny Adkins, West Virginia State Fire Training Academy
- Gary Caille, Colorado State University Ventures
- Gene Coulson, West Virginia Department of Education
- Gerrill Griffith, West Virginia University Research Corporation
- Tom Gross, formerly with the U.S. Department of Energy and now an independent consultant
- Roy Nutter, West Virginia University
- Andy O'Neal, <u>University of Northwestern Ohio</u>
- Chris Peterson, Toyota
- Paul Williamson, Sustainable Systems of Colorado

The Advanced Electric Drive Vehicle Education Program is managed by the NAFTC. The program will generate and disseminate a variety of outreach and education efforts including training and curricula for first responders, automotive technicians, educators, electrical infrastructure engineers, consumers and other related groups.

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## **About the Advanced Electric Drive Vehicle Education Program**

The Advanced Electric Drive Vehicle Education Program, funded by a U.S. Department of Energy grant under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, is a public-private partnership with the mission of "Educating America on Next Generation Vehicles." The program will feature curricula, training and outreach and education activities, web-driven simulators, a website and support of National Alternative Fuel Vehicle Day Odyssey. This program will provide education and accurate, timely information to consumers, first responders, secondary school educators and students, charging infrastructure engineers and installers, automotive technicians and fleet operators.