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For Immediate Release:

EIU TO HOST NINTH ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ENGINEERING DESIGN CONTEST

CHARLESTON -- Approximately 350 students from 18 area high schools will participate in the ninth annual Engineering Design Contest at Eastern Illinois University.

The event is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 27, in the University Ballroom in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. The contest will begin with the testing of student projects and end with an awards ceremony at 1:30 p.m.

This event is being co-sponsored by Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering and Eastern's Pre-Engineering Studies Committee.

Students from each team will be responsible for designing, building and testing four different project devices for the competition, and they must match specifications provided by this year's competition design guide. Projects will include a toothpick bridge, a tennis ball launcher, a mousetrap-driven vehicle and a loaded beam, as well as a "surprise" project that will be announced at the contest.

Schools currently registered for the competition include Altamont, Casey/Westfield, Catlin, Chrisman, Clinton, Cumberland, Effingham, Eisenhower (Decatur), Kansas, Lanphier (Springfield), Maroa/Forsyth, Marshal, Martinsville, Mt. Pulaski, St. Joseph/Ogden, St. Teresa (Decatur), University Lab School (Urbana) and Warrensburg/Latham high schools.