



*Making a difference with "Global High School Network"*

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Announcing the launching of "Global High School Network", an innovative solution that leverages cutting edge technology to strengthen high school students, teachers and institutions across the world.

Star Tech Group, Inc. (USA) and its subsidiary, Acclaim Global Education (Private/Limited - India) are guided by a singular obsession to bring about change in education worldwide. Taking a clue from Mahatma Gandhi's quote "Be the change you want to see in this world", the STG team focused on building a "new ecosystem" with advise from Socrates: "The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but building the new". And that is only possible "When you focus on problems, you will have more problems, when you focus on possibilities, you will have more opportunities".

*Opportunity in India:* The education system in India is very strong in the area of science and mathematics, with a clear need for a dose of critical and analytical thinking from high school to college studies. In the area of integrating critical and analytical thinking into K-12 education, the claim to leadership in this area clearly goes to the U.S.A. K-12 education system.

*Solution U.S.A.:* What makes the U.S.A so attractive to immigrants? The United States of America has been a global destination for centuries attracting folks from all over world to arrive by land, air and sea with a simple mission: to have a better quality of life. The founding fathers of the United States authored a brilliant constitution that has held true since 1787, delivering on the concept of fundamental rights of liberty and justice for all. Liberty in the way of thinking, living and working is woven into everyday life for all who call the U.S.A. their home. The education system is the essential life force for Liberty to not only survive, but also strengthen with each generation. The K-12 education system in the U.S.A. reinforces and strengthens the concepts of "independent thinking" that challenges status quo and encourages everyone to carve out a unique path in life that reflects their "individual values and passion".

*What is the opportunity in India?:* According to Ravi Shakamuri, CEO of Star Tech Group, "Despite advances in technology that made the world a much smaller place, one fact continues to hold true as it has in the past: to quench a thirst for that uniquely American education, one has to travel to the U.S.A. in the same way that many have been doing over the past century. Affordability is a clear factor limiting this opportunity to a few in the world, resulting in a tradition of overseas education being limited mainly to professional studies such as medicine or engineering. Star Tech Group's strategy is to connect high quality teachers in the U.S.A. to schools in India with a clear focus on making this education model affordable and accessible to all students across India. Phase I of the Global High School network delivers the solution to the student instead of the student crossing the ocean".

*Phase I Global High School Education:* Denise Shetter, Superintendent of the Winona Independent School District, is passionate about making a difference for students. "Oral Interpretation" is the subject selected by Denise Shetter to teach high school students in India as a pilot program conducted by Star Tech Group. In the pilot program, Ms. Shetter conducts live classes on a technology platform that allows bidirectional video and audio formats that facilitate real time interactions. Three times a week, Ms. Shetter teaches four high school classes with 30 students each simultaneously. On alternate dates, teachers in the classrooms in India review classes with their students while completing assignments from Ms. Shetter's classes.

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Summarizing lessons learned from the pilot project, Ms. Shetter comments on the Global High School network: "Acclaim Global High School is important to students because it allows international students to have an American Educational experience which is saturated with critical thinking, problem solving and forming unique, personal opinions based on the information provided. Students also have the opportunity to interact with American educational professionals which helps them to master both the formal and informal usage of American English. Teachers in both countries have an opportunity to instructional methods that support student learning in both a classroom setting, as well as virtual classroom. We believe that the strategies used in this setting will transition to international classrooms to help their students continue to grow as problem solvers. With this growth of all students as problem solvers, we are truly exporting American education".

*Opportunity in the U.S.A.:* The K-12 education system has began to emphasize S.T.E.M (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) to prepare the students for increasingly technology-based careers that require advanced education. This focus has created a significant shortage of science and math tutors and teachers across the schools in the U.S.A.

*Solution India:* What makes India so attractive as a source of Math and Science tutors and teachers? Post-secondary education in India is dominated by Engineering and Medical professions. Colleges in India have significant success in educating high-quality professionals with Masters degrees and beyond.

*Phase II of Global High School network:* Provide online, bidirectional live tutoring services for students in high schools in the U.S.A. utilizing highly qualified, experienced teachers in Math and Science. Star Tech Group's subsidiary in India, Acclaim Global Education, recruits tutors and provides training in good teaching practices utilizing Phase I recordings. Phase II is scheduled to start with a pilot group on January 26th, 2015.

*Phase III of Global High School network:* Focuses on recruiting, orienting and placing highly-qualified Math and Science teachers in school districts across the U.S.A. Phase III was initiated on January 1, 2015 with initial screening for Math and Science teachers with a minimum of five years of teaching experience. All applicants are required to demonstrate a true passion not only for their subject area but also in their commitment to make a difference as an onsite teacher in the U.S.A.

The Global High School network ecosystem is designed to provide support and strengthen students, teachers and schools in India and the U.S.A. by creating opportunities for students and teachers locally, making it all more affordable and accessible for many.

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