

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 28, 2004

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## Education Technology Labs Reveals Exciting New Developments at 2004 Technology Conference

*Development progress presented to Ed Tech™ members.*

**Salt Lake City, UT – July 28, 2003** – Education Technology Labs, a non-profit software research and development company, focused on administrative software for public school districts, recently held their second annual Technology Conference in Park City, Utah on July 9-10. Representatives from 19 states out of the 25 state membership were in attendance. The two-day meetings revealed the forward progress made by the Ed Tech™ software developers towards the first modules of the Ascent™ software application. Demonstrated were features and benefits of the Ascent™ Application Execution Environment (AEE™) the core module of the Ascent™ integrated information system. Steve Swett, Vice President of Product Development, demonstrated how users would be able to manage their productivity through the web-based application. AEE™ will also provide the core security management function for a district, creating user profiles for system, application and screen level security. Open source approaches and opportunities were also emphasized.

Education Technologies Labs has a member base of over 100 school districts that are currently using the CIMS® software products for their financial and student administrative applications. CIMS®, (Comprehensive Information Management for Schools), are licensed products from NCS/Pearson, Inc. They are widely used by schools on the IBM AS/400® and iSeries™ in support of school and district administration including management of student records, financial accounting and human resources. Ed Tech™ along with Timpanogos Technologies, a software support entity working cooperatively with Ed Tech™, are responsible to research technologies and develop a new software product, Ascent™. Ascent™ is a web-based software product that offers school districts a state-of-the-art interfaces while utilizing a district's existing database and a their current IBM iSeries™ hardware technology.

Managing technology in public school districts can be an overwhelming assignment. Many districts are at a quandary. Their administration demands up to date, expansive and intuitive software. Making a switch to a whole new software application takes an exacting toll on financial, manpower and informational resources. Ascent™ provides a district a cost-effective return on their investment by using existing data and technology. Completed modules can be introduced to a district gradually over time. Since existing data is used, the implementation and any training may be phased as a gradual, simple on-going process until complete applications are wholly new.

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“Our membership base provides vital feedback and helps set development priorities,” says Keith Blake, President of Timpanogos Technologies. He added, “The conference recapped a successful year in supporting our user base, and then showed significant and specific progress towards the Ascent™ product.”

### **About Timpanogos Technologies**

Timpanogos Technologies is a leading provider of supplemental/add-on software, as well as full service and support to school districts using CIMS® products. The company is headquartered in Salt Lake City, Utah, with offices in Arizona, New Mexico, Oregon, Oklahoma and Michigan. Relationships with regional support vendors are promoted, to provide local first line product assistance to schools. For more information, please visit [www.timptech.com](http://www.timptech.com).

### **About Education Technology Labs**

Education Technology Labs is a non-profit research and development corporation, focused on bringing productive, leading edge technology to schools. It is based in American Fork, Utah, with currently participating school districts in 25 states, ranging from Alaska to Massachusetts. Along with others with extensive education experience, its board of directors includes a former state superintendent of instruction. Focus groups, made up of school personnel, provide direction, needs and priorities. Commercial quality software is developed for participating districts as open source code, with no license fee. Support for standard versions is made available through Timpanogos Technologies. For more information please visit [www.edtechlabs.org](http://www.edtechlabs.org).