

From: [Scott C Redding](#)
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Subject: Career Technical Center Transportation Competition Coming to Ferris
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NEWS SERVICES

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY
1009 Campus Drive, Johnson 200, Big Rapids, MI 49307
Phone: (231) 591-2866 Fax: (231) 591-2946
www.ferris.edu/news

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Scott Redding
Ferris State University

Marketing

Specialist

[reddins@ferris.edu](mailto:redskins@ferris.edu), (231) 591-

2866

Career Technical Center Transportation Competition Coming to Ferris

BIG RAPIDS - May 2, 2009 will be the first transportation competition for area Career Technical Centers that do not participate in SkillsUSA or MITES and are mandated by the state to include student competitions in their curriculum.

Ben Upham, associate professor of Automotive Service Technology at Ferris State University, worked with College of Engineering Technology and CTC advisory committee leadership to establish the competition. "We felt that there are good kids that come out of these programs and with the state requiring them to compete in order to continue funding, we did not want to have them get lost – especially in today's economic situation," said Upham.

The event will take place at Ferris' Automotive Center starting at 9 a.m., and includes four components made up of two hands-on situations, a written test and interviewing skills. There will be four members from each of the three inaugural teams – Mecosta Osceola Intermediate School District, Wexford-Missaukee Career Technical Center and Newaygo County Career Tech Center – who will compete individually in the four areas and be combined for a total team score.

The competition will be judged by Ferris Automotive department faculty. The written test has two versions to choose from – automotive or heavy equipment; the hands-on portions will be in brakes and basic electrical; and the interview will include job seeking skills including a

mock job interview.

The winning school will receive a plaque and a vehicle will be donated for the next school year. “Although this is the first year, we are already planning on continuing the competition next year,” said Upham.

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Scott Redding
Marketing Specialist
College of Engineering Technology
Ferris State University
1009 Campus Drive, JOH 200
Big Rapids, MI 49307
231-591-2866 p
231-591-2946 f