

President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

Nortel Networks Kidz Online

Grant amount: \$1,000,000

Grantee: Nortel Networks Kidz Online

Key partners:

NASA Langley Research Center's Center for Distance Learning (CDL), National Association of Workforce Boards, Los Angeles Trade and Technical College, ESRI, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Society of Women Engineers, Virginia Space Grant Consortium, Digital Quest, Environmental and Spatial Technology Initiative National Institute of Technology and Policy Research, North Carolina State University, North Carolina 4-H, Hampton City Public Schools, Virginia Beach Public Schools, Council of Great City Schools, National Council of Teacher of Mathematics, National Science Teacher Association, NEC Foundation of America, Media Access Group of WGBH, NASA TV, Apple Learning Interchange, Teacher Live, Consortium of School Networking, Job Corps, and Humanitas

Location of grant activities: Reston, Virginia

Leveraged amount: \$1,002,055

Challenge:

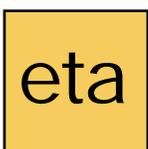
The public has little perception about possibilities of employment either in the geospatial technology industry or in associated user sectors. Insufficient communication about career opportunities to a variety of audiences on a wide range of issues has been among the key barriers to developing an adequate pipeline of geospatial workers. Nortel's \$1,000,000 proposal, entitled Geo 21, increases public awareness of geospatial technologies and career opportunities, utilizing Nortel's unique peer-to-peer learning environment powered by Nortel's and NASA's outreach networks. Nortel and the NASA Center for Distance Learning (CDL) will create new geospatial education content customized for students and teachers.

Addressing the Challenge:

With its \$1,000,000 grant, Nortel will establish a geospatial technology education and awareness initiative to develop and deliver learning resources like video programming and live web casts, provide professional development services, and integrate geospatial concepts into existing programming and ETA's Career Voyages web site. Spanish language translation will be done for some content.

Projected Outcome:

- New content and programming, including Geographic Voyager, which will introduce concepts and follow students in geospatial contests in their schools; Teacher to Teach, in which teachers will observe inquiry-based teaching and learning of geospatial concepts; and Community Building By Kids, which focuses on community development projects that utilize GIS tools.
- Leveraging award winning programming such as the Kids Science News Network, which will use one-minute vignettes to introduce geospatial technology and its everyday uses and Destination Tomorrow, with four segments featuring emerging geospatial technologies; and
- Professional development services, including two geospatial education modules for middle, high school, and community college faculty to increase their awareness of geospatial tools, promote their use, and reduce teacher apprehension.



EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Geospatial Technology Sector Demonstration Grants