

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release: April 10th, 2008

EXTREME Virtual Reality Science Fair Finals

Students to compete in EXTREME VR finals using 3D technology

- **What:** Students will be presenting their 3D Science Fair projects in Sudbury's first ever EXTREME VR Finals. They will be using cutting-edge 3D modeling technology to explore a variety of subjects, from cells to the human brain and beyond. This is a Sudbury Mining Week event and also part of National Engineering Week.
- **Who:** Students, their mentors, distinguished members of the community, and a panel of judges.
- **WHEN:** Saturday, April 12th, 4 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- **WHERE:** 3D Virtual Reality Laboratory, Willet Green Miller Centre, Laurentian University.

Reference:

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BACKGROUND:

About MIRARCO

MIRARCO is a not-for-profit R&D company owned by Laurentian University, specializing in the natural resources industry, and the environment. MIRARCO assists companies and agencies of all sizes in solving problems through innovative applied research, using customized teams of scientists, engineers and University / College student researchers. www.mirarco.org

About EXTREME Virtual Reality Competition

In 2006, the Ontario Government awarded MIRARCO funding towards a three-year project through the Youth Science and Technology Outreach Program (YSTOP) to expose youth to science through the compelling medium of Virtual Reality (VR). Known as the "EXTREME VR Competition," this annual event pairs up high school students with mentors from academia, the private sector, and not-for-profits.

Students can explore any question in science, engineering or IT. They use the method of 3D modeling and the medium of large-scale VR to communicate their concept and discoveries. This year, the competition was open to students in Sudbury; thanks to this project, the technology was used to present science in a captivating way to over 400 students. The EXTREME VR Science Fair was carried out in partnership with Let's Talk Science, PDAC Mining Matters, and the schools of the City of Greater Sudbury.

For more information, visit <http://extremevr.mirarco.org>.