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News Release

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University of California Partners with Knowledge Tools to Extend MDTP Tests across the USA

The Mathematics Diagnostic Testing Project (MDTP) supports secondary mathematics educators in preparing students for success in current and subsequent mathematics courses, as well as in college-level coursework

University of California, San Diego / Division of Physical Sciences

Knowledge Tools, LLC, a new subsidiary of the leading applications development company Desktop Services, has partnered with the University of California (UC) to design an online testing platform for the California State University (CSU) / UC Mathematics Diagnostic Testing Project (MDTP), located regionally at UC San Diego. The company, founded chiefly to extend the MDTP Online Testing platform and assessment resources beyond California, announces that it has licensed MDTP online diagnostic tests for use by secondary mathematics educators across the country.

Jointly formed and supported by CSU and UC in 1977, MDTP's purpose is to promote and support student readiness and success in college mathematics courses. MDTP is widely acknowledged for producing reliable diagnostic mathematics tests for students in grades 6-12. It is funded through the California Academic Partnership Program (CAPP) to provide assessment resources to California secondary educators.

"CAPP is extremely pleased with this partnership with Knowledge Tools," said Zulmara Cline, director of CAPP, CSU Chancellor's Office. "Having an online option for the schools in California is essential in this transition to Common Core State Standards and the Smarter Balanced Assessments. We are fully invested in the students of California learning how to use and access these tools as an integral part of their educational journey," she said.

David Wheelock, owner and chief programmer of Knowledge Tools and Desktop Services, explained that preparation for college starts from the schools, and MDTP tests are a time-tested tool for any student aspiring to pursue mathematics in college. To date, however, MDTP Online tests are supported for California students only.

"Our new partnership with the University of California will help us to provide these highly effective diagnostic tests to schools across America," Wheelock said.

MDTP Online diagnostic results provide instant and robust feedback about student preparedness to both students and their teachers. The diagnostic results help teachers, schools and districts understand the strengths and areas

of weakness of their students in different courses of mathematics—an understanding which can be used to inform teaching practices, interventions, support and program reflection.

“Our agreement with Knowledge Tools is a great example of the fundamental impact UC San Diego has on California and the rest of the country through its innovation and commercialization efforts,” said William Decker, associate director of UC San Diego’s Research Affairs Office of Innovation and Commercialization.

Kimberly Samaniego, director of MDTP, said that the program’s innovative collaboration with Knowledge Tools opens online testing access to MDTP tests to teachers and students in a 21st century nation.

“Technology-based assessment systems provide immediate results which allows educators to respond to student’s mathematical common misconceptions and areas of unfinished learning in real time,” said Samaniego. “We are excited that Knowledge Tools offers MDTP diagnostic online testing to mathematics educators outside the scope of our grant supporting their efforts to prepare students for college and beyond.”

Knowledge Tools online testing provides an efficient, environmentally conscience and economic alternative to paper testing, according to Wheelock. He said that Knowledge Tools and Desktop Services is looking forward to providing a fresh approach to classroom test-taking through its online MDTP tests.

“These tests are a breeze to administer and offer a hassle-free and efficient testing environment,” noted Wheelock.

Please visit MDTP.ucsd.edu or contact [Knowledge Tools](#), LLC, for more information.

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