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Alpha Pro Solutions Meets with US DOT and Drug and Alcohol Testing Industry Professionals in Washington DC to Demonstrate Its New Computer Training Courses

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Alpha Pro Solutions, a leader in training and consulting for the drug and alcohol testing industry, demonstrated its new dynamic, interactive computer based training courses for important government officials from the US DOT Office of Drug and Alcohol Policy and Compliance (ODAPC), DOT Modal Agency Program Managers, and many industry professionals in Washington DC last week. The Alpha Pro Solutions courses provide clear and cost-effective solutions for companies and individuals falling under new DOT training requirements, and for the substance abuse testing industry in general. The CD-ROM demonstrations were met with enthusiasm and praise. Alpha Pro Solutions was also featured in last Friday's edition of <u>Eaglezine</u>, a weekly publication by renowned author and motivational speaker Dr. Tom Hill of The Eagle Institute.

Alpha Pro Solutions announcement to provide state-of-the-art computer based training comes just two months after publication of new Department of Transportation rules which set forth new and continuing education training requirements for drug test collectors, breath alcohol technicians (BATs), alcohol screening test technicians (STTs), medical review officers (MROs), and substance abuse professionals (SAPs). (See Federal Register 49 CFR Part 40 12/19/00.) Under the direction of president Sue Clark-Hufker, MBA, C-SAPA, a well know trainer and spokesperson for the industry, Alpha Pro Solutions promises to offer courses that will become the "gold standard" for drug and alcohol testing computer based training. While in Washington DC, Ms. Clark also attended the US DOT Public Meetings on Drug and Alcohol Testing Regulations, and met with heads of several national associations that offer training in the industry.

"Alpha Pro Solutions understands the difficulties in getting a lot of people trained in a short amount of time," says Ms. Clark-Hufker. "Some of the new regulations went into effect in January of 2001, and many individuals don't even know the rule has been re-written. Therefore, high quality computer based training offered by APS, Inc. will effectively and efficiently meet much of the training demand while decreasing employer costs when compared to instructor-led training."

"While many CBT courses simply place flat text on a computer screen, offer a short quiz at the end, then generate a certificate," says Ms. Clark, "Alpha Pro Solutions courses are state-of-the-art. They include engaging multi-media techniques such as animation, video

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of real life testing scenarios and true interactivity with the learner. Alpha Pro courses require accountability, are fully password protected, and store records permanently. Continuing education hours are offered, and re-certification updates to meet regulatory and industry requirements are automatic. For novice computer users, all courses include a Computers 101 module."

Alpha Pro Solutions' course menu includes new and refresher courses for collectors, BATs, STTs, supervisors needing signs and symptoms training, and substance abuse awareness training for covered workers. Training modules for MROs and SAPs are also being developed. Courses are designed to comply with DOT, NRC and non-regulated testing protocols. More courses will be added later when HHS guidelines for alternative specimen testing are finalized.

With over ten years consulting and training experience in the drug and alcohol testing industry, Ms. Clark emphasizes that computer-based training is not intended to completely eliminate classroom instructors. "In fact, new DOT rules call for facilitators to oversee hands-on proficiency exercises. Someone must be present to ensure testing of covered workers will be done properly. However, the redundant part of rules and regs training that many people loathe can now become a fun multimedia experience, while promising greater retention and higher passing rates". Alpha Pro Solutions maintains a trainer network so referrals for hands-on training will be possible even for remote testing sites.

This product is truly timely in light of new Department of Transportation regulations published in December of 2000. DOT drug and alcohol testing rules cover 8.5 million workers employed in positions deemed safety sensitive. Effective in January 2001 was the largely debated Public Interest Exclusion (PIE) for industry service providers, and validity testing addressing adulterant and substituted specimen problems. "Now that service providers will be held directly accountable by DOT, it is in their best interest to ensure quality training occurs throughout their organization."

For more information or to obtain a FREE Demo CD-ROM, go to the Alpha Pro Solutions website at www.alphaprosolutions.com, send an email to sue@alphaprosolutions.com, or contact Sue Clark-Hufker at 636-561-4259.

Alpha Pro Solutions, Inc. www.alphaprosolutions.com
25 Gourdon Court, Lake St. Louis, MO 63367 Phone (636) 561-4259 Fax (636) 625-4259
Sue Clark-Hufker, President Email: sue@alphaprosolutions.com