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Corporate partnership adds John Deere Construction & Forestry Technician Initiative at NDSCS
*Partnership aligns needs of RDO Equipment Co. dealerships for qualified John Deere technicians
with opportunities for NDSCS students*

Wahpeton, N.D. (Sept. 12, 2013) —Representatives from North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton, N.D., [John Deere](http://www.johndeere.com) and RDO Equipment Co. announced the addition of the John Deere Construction and Forestry Tech initiative to the NDSCS Diesel Technology program following a demonstration of the technology and support systems involved in trouble-shooting John Deere heavy construction equipment. This partnership will offer career opportunities RDO Equipment Co. sponsored NDSCS students who have been trained to diagnose, service, repair and rebuild the John Deere construction and forestry diesel equipment used by customers nationwide.

NDSCS will be one of eight colleges across the nation offering the [John Deere C&F Tech](#) specialized training, which is a partnership between John Deere, its dealers and select community colleges. RDO Equipment Co. dealerships nationwide will recruit and sponsor students to enroll at NDSCS. Students will receive specialized training on the NDSCS campus as well as apply their knowledge at the sponsoring RDO Equipment Co. dealership, ultimately graduating with a two-year AAS degree in Diesel Technology plus extensive experience servicing John Deere equipment.

“The world’s growing population calls for an even greater need of infrastructure equipment and those who can keep them running,” said Jeff Kraft, John Deere Construction & Forestry Division Manager. “The commitment made by RDO Equipment Co. and North Dakota State College of Science will help resolve technician shortages, while providing quality instructors, curriculum and skills needed for a successful and rewarding career at a John Deere dealership.”

RDO Equipment Co. is actively seeking students for 2014 enrollment in the John Deere C&F Tech initiative. Information is available online through the company's [Access Your Future Program](#) page and on the [NDSCS](#) website.

“Qualified technicians are integral in keeping our customers’ equipment up and running,” said Jean Zimmerman, Executive Vice President, RDO Equipment Co. “We invest in our technicians because they are the best in the industry and we’re excited to work closely with NDSCS to provide successful graduates the opportunity to work at our company.”

This additional initiative expands the John Deere training commitment at NCSCS, building off the success of the John Deere Tech program.

“The expansion of our private-public partnership with John Deere and RDO Equipment Co. fills a critical need, especially in this region,” said NDSCS President John Richman. “And the benefit to our students is more than the access to the most up-to-date technology and equipment. Ultimately, this partnership will launch very successful careers with RDO Equipment Co. for our students.”

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About North Dakota State College of Science

NDSCS is a two-year, comprehensive college with a residential campus located in Wahpeton, N.D., and a commuter location, referred to as NDSCS-Fargo, located in north Fargo, N.D. NDSCS offers degrees, certificates and diplomas in 39 programs with over 80 academic options in traditional career and technical studies as well as liberal arts. The College also offers a variety of distance education and online courses. Approximately 99 percent of graduates are employed or pursuing additional education.

Unlike most two-year colleges, NDSCS in Wahpeton boasts a university atmosphere with over 20 affiliated student clubs and organizations, music groups, theater productions, intercollegiate athletics, intramural athletics and numerous social activities. For more information, visit ndscs.edu. Follow NDSCS on Facebook at facebook.com/ndscs and Twitter at twitter.com/ndscswildcats.

About RDO Equipment Co.

Founded in 1968, RDO Equipment Co. is a family owned and operated company that provides and supports innovative solutions for John Deere agriculture, construction, lawn and garden; Vermeer; and Topcon customers. The organization, with headquarters in Fargo, N.D., employs more than 1,900 team members. The company has more than 60 sales and service locations in nine U.S. states and partnerships in Russia, Ukraine, and Australia. Learn more about RDO Equipment Co. at www.rdoequipment.com.

About Deere & Company

Deere & Company (NYSE: DE) is a world leader in providing advanced products and services and is committed to the success of customers whose work is linked to the land - those who cultivate, harvest, transform, enrich and build upon the land to meet the world's dramatically increasing need for food, fuel, shelter and infrastructure. Since 1837, John Deere has delivered innovative products of superior quality built on a tradition of integrity. For more information, visit John Deere at www.JohnDeere.com.