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**PROTON ENERGY SYSTEMS ANNOUNCES  
\$1 MILLION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

*Global Hydrogen Leader to Fuel the Next Generation of Scientific  
Innovators among High School Seniors*

**Wallingford, CT (November 17, 2009)** – Global hydrogen energy leader Proton Energy Systems announced today it is launching a \$1 million scholarship program aimed at high school seniors across the nation. The Proton Energy Scholarship will recognize and award high school seniors who demonstrate outstanding achievement, excellence and promise in the field of science or technology, and who plan to pursue higher education in this field.

The scholarship program is supported and funded by Tom Sullivan, owner of Proton Energy and founder of the national chain Lumber Liquidators. The scholarship will award four-year undergraduate scholarship prizes with a total value of up to \$100,000 each. Honorable Mentions, Proton Energy Achievers, will be awarded \$500 prizes. Sullivan has committed \$1 million to the Hydrogen Education Foundation (HEF), who is administering the scholarship program.

“Proton Energy is committed to innovation and creativity, and it is our hope that through this scholarship, we can help inspire young people with an interest in science and technology,” said Sullivan. “The cost of college can sometimes be overwhelming – especially in this economy – and we are proud to help alleviate this burden, while also encouraging new ideas among some of America’s most promising high school students in a field that holds tremendous importance for the future.”

Proton Energy is the world’s leading supplier of onsite hydrogen generators utilizing PEM (proton exchange membrane) technology, which creates high purity hydrogen from de-mineralized water and electricity. The company has been developing and manufacturing world-class electrolysis systems since 1996, with more than 1200 units deployed world-wide, on every continent. Proton Energy has also been involved in more than a dozen hydrogen fueling stations currently in operation around the nation, and its commitment to innovation has been recognized with contracts from the Department of Defense and the Department of Energy.

“We are thrilled that Proton chose the Hydrogen Education Foundation to administer this exciting new program,” said Jeffrey Serfass, President of the HEF. “We look forward to identifying and awarding star students who will help us address the global energy and environmental challenges ahead.”

The Proton Energy Scholarship, aimed at high school seniors, will play an important complementary role to two other HEF programs, the Hydrogen Student Design Contest and the H-Prize, which respectively hold competitions for university-level students and innovators seeking excellence beyond higher education.

Proton Energy Scholarship applicants will be evaluated on academic performance, strength of application, commitment to further education in a science or technology related field, financial need and demonstrated leadership, work ethic and community involvement. Deadline for applications is February 10, 2010. Winners will be announced on April 15, 2010.

**For more information on the Proton Energy Scholarship, application guidelines, and to apply, visit [www.ProtonEnergyScholarship.org](http://www.ProtonEnergyScholarship.org) .**

#### **About Proton Energy Systems**

Proton Energy Systems designs and manufactures proton exchange membrane (PEM) electrochemical systems to make hydrogen from water in a zero pollution process producing safe, pure, reliable onsite hydrogen to meet today's global hydrogen requirements. Proton Energy Systems has been developing and manufacturing world-class electrolysis systems since 1996, with thousands of units deployed world-wide, on every continent. With a reputation for building robust, reliable, and safe systems, federal, state, and commercial partners repeatedly seek the creative solutions that Proton Energy Systems has proven it is capable of delivering. For more information, visit [www.ProtonEnergy.com](http://www.ProtonEnergy.com) .

#### **About the Hydrogen Education Foundation**

HEF is the charitable, education-focused arm of the National Hydrogen Association, the largest hydrogen trade association in the world. The HEF currently administers four hallmark programs: the H2 & You outreach program, the Hydrogen Student Design contest, the H-Prize Competition and now the Proton Energy Scholarship Program. [www.HydrogenEducationFoundation.org](http://www.HydrogenEducationFoundation.org)

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