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Chrostwaite Partners with Carnegie Mellon University

For Immediate Release

(Harrisburg – January 17, 2011) The Chrostwaite Institute (Institute) announced today a partnership with Carnegie Mellon University (University) and the H. John Heinz II School of Public Policy Management. The Institute awarded a grant to the University in an effort to support the technological development of a system to assess the quality of certain aspects of local road infrastructure and promote greater community-based methods of data collection.

This project is particularly relevant to state and local government officials as many of them are in need of higher quality road information to enable them to make decisions on where to allocate public resources for pavement repair. The system will be composed of two software applications that implement the design of the Road Damage Assessment System (ROADAS) and allow for video recording of street surfaces. All data will be time stamped and geo-localized prior to being stored on a centralized server. The system will be designed to interface with Google Maps to display the available information on road quality and maximize accessibility.

“We are proud to partner with Carnegie Mellon University on this unique project and look forward to its future introduction as a valuable infrastructure maintenance tool for local government officials,” said Tom Klaum, Chief Executive Officer of the Chrostwaite Institute. “As public budgets continue to experience strain in this economy, we are determined to help support efforts that foster greater efficiency in road maintenance standards that will ultimately benefit all Pennsylvanians and promote economic development.”

About the Chrostwaite Institute

The Chrostwaite Institute (Institute) is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to research and public policy analysis. The Institute focuses on such key areas as government efficiency, community investment, transportation, water infrastructure, economic development, and the promotion of civic engagement in local communities. Please visit www.chrostwaite.org for more information.

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