



The Honorable John W. Douglass  
President and Chief Executive Officer

November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Mr. Richard Liebich, CEO  
Project Lead The Way  
747 Pierce Road  
Clifton Park, New York 12065

Dear Mr. Liebich:

The Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) is the premier trade association representing the nation's major aerospace and defense manufacturers. More than 100 major aerospace and defense companies are members of the association, embodying every high-technology manufacturing segment of the U.S. aerospace and defense industry from commercial aviation and avionics, to manned and unmanned defense systems, to space technologies and satellite communications. In addition, the association has more than 175 associate member companies, all of which are leading aerospace and defense suppliers.

AIA and its members believe the future of America's aerospace workforce is in jeopardy. A combination of demographics, changing market conditions, and new emphases in education will result in a significant shortage of technical talent in the near future.

Because maintaining a highly skilled U.S. aerospace workforce is critical to America's security and economic well-being, we have searched for ways to head off that shortage. We are very pleased to have learned about Project Lead the Way, and it receives our strong endorsement.

Project Lead the Way provides proven curricula and teacher training that allow schools to both improve technical education and excite students about careers in technology fields. We believe that Project Lead the Way has great potential to increase the quantity and quality of engineers and engineering technologists graduating from our education system.

Many of AIA's member companies are already working with local schools to implement Project Lead the Way. We hope that many more will, and that school districts and companies in other technology-dependent industries will join in this effort.

With Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John W. Douglass', written over a horizontal line.

John W. Douglass  
President & CEO

JWD: jg