



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Knoxville Books Hometown Techno Group

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE – The Knoxville Convention Center is pleased to announce the completion of lengthy negotiations toward an agreement with the Spallation Neutron Source (SNS), of Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). The agreement commits more than 3,000 total hotel rooms within five area hotels and the Knoxville Convention Center, that will host the Particle Accelerator Conference in May, 2005, (PAC'05).

The 21st Biennial conference will attract over 1,200 scientists to Knoxville area, to present new developments in particle acceleration technology. The PAC, sponsored by the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) and the American Physical Society (APS), will be held in Portland '03 and was held in Chicago in '01 and New York City in '99. For 2005, Knoxville's competition was Nashville and Atlanta.

“Knoxville, couldn't be considered until the new Convention Center was completed”, says Dr. Norbert Holtkamp, chairperson of the PAC'05 organizing committee. Holtkamp, Director of the Accelerator Systems Division of the SNS, was integral in bringing this future event to Knoxville. “Knoxville offers the closest proximity to the world's largest \$1.4 billion spallation neutron

construction project,” says Holtkamp.

The Oak Ridge SNS facility, to be completed in 2006, will provide the most intense pulsed neutron beams in the world enabling improved research and industrial development. Applications for this research technology is seen in many everyday products, such as: credit cards, compact discs, magnetic recording tape, shatterproof windshields, and much more.

The initial work in securing the PAC’05 started in 2001, when ORNL conference manager, Angie Beach and SNS Directors toured the Knoxville Convention Center during the construction period. "This is great, terrific," said Mayor Victor Ashe. "This is why we spent \$160 million on a convention center project to bring visitors to Knoxville." Kim Paul, Director of Sales for Knoxville Tourism and Sports Corporation, coordinated with the hotels selected and Center Sales Manager, Linda Swann, handled facility needs for PAC. ‘The success of booking PAC’05 was a real team effort,” says Bill Overfelt, SMG General Manager of the Center. “This is an excellent meeting for the City and Center and the first of many with the ORNL.

With close to 70% of the PAC attendance is from the United States, 30% attending scientists come from primarily Asia, Europe, and other countries, the conference will showcase the hospitality community and pump an estimated \$800,000.00 into the Knoxville economy.

For more info. about SNS go to Website: www.sns.gov

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