



Press Release

Office of Economic Development

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

View online at: http://www.sanjoseclassic.com/downloads.SJCCCEO.pdf

Contact

Steven Brewster

(415) 577-8851 mobile

San Jose Office of Economic Development

steven.brewster@sanjoseca.gov

SILICON VALLEY EXECUTIVES WILL VIE TO BE KING OF THE MOUNTAIN AT THE SAN JOSE CYCLING CLASSIC

CEO Challenge pits area business leaders against one another in prelude to returning Amgen Tour of California

SAN JOSE, CALIF., February 3, 2009—The San Jose Cycling Classic presents the CEO Challenge sponsored by SunPower Corp., which begins at 8 a.m., on Saturday, February 14. The challenge starts at San Jose City Hall located at 200 E. Santa Clara Street.

One of the kick off events for the San Jose Cycling Classic, the CEO Challenge—a special category within the King of the Mountain Time Trial Race and Ride sponsored by Mattson Technology (KOM)—includes the demanding hill that again will be featured in the next Amgen Tour of California race and has proved to be one of its most decisive portions.

According to Carl Guardino, president and CEO, Silicon Valley Leadership Group and co-chair of the 2009 Amgen Tour of California San Jose Local Organizing Committee, this will give the area's cycling CEOs the opportunity to ride and experience the same challenges that will be faced by some of the world's top professionals on February 17 as the Amgen Tour of California makes its way from San Jose to Modesto.

"The tortuous Sierra Road climb is a true test for the most seasoned professional. The CEO Challenge allows cyclists to understand what it takes to ride like a professional on the grueling Sierra hill while enjoying some friendly competition from other Bay Area executives," Guardino said.

The CEO Challenge, along with the overall KOM competition, will begin at San Jose City Hall and reaches the base of Sierra Road for a mass start time trial race. From there, the climb is 3.7 miles long with an average gradient of 10 percent; however, some pitches reach 17-18 percent. It will include police motorcycles leading a rolling closure north and east of Downtown San Jose to the base of the Sierra Road climb.

After summiting Sierra Road, riders may complete the Sierra/Calaveras/Piedmont loop and ride west to City Hall.

CEOs are invited back to City Hall for a post ride celebration, complete with lunch and awards presentation, hosted by NBC Bay Area's and cycling enthusiast, Craig Herrera.

"We hope that leaders from throughout the region will take part in the CEO Challenge and also encourage their employees to register as company teams in the King of the Mountain Time Trial and Race," said Tom Werner, president and CEO, SunPower Corp. "The day will be fun, build teamwork and push forward key themes surrounding the San Jose Green Vision and how cycling has a positive impact on the environment."

Participation in the CEO Challenge is open to one representative employed with a company or organization with a title of chief executive officer, president, executive director or highest ranking title. To register in this special category, please contact Tricia Kerkhof, tricia.kerkhof@sanjoseca.gov, or (408) 277-5144, ext. 33.

Produced in anticipation of the upcoming Amgen Tour of California, the San Jose Cycling Classic will be held February 14-21, 2009 throughout San Jose is a multi-pronged event encompassing professional, amateur and community cycling activities, including the King of the Mountain Time Trial Race and Ride sponsored by Mattson Technology, the CEO Challenge powered by SunPower and The Criterium built by WEBCOR. Other activities include a Cycling Film Night and a cycling art exhibition. It is expected to attract more than 1,000 cycling athletes, 20,000 spectators and cycling-related exhibitors.

Funds raised from CEO Challenge and all San Jose Cycling Classic events will support health, fitness and cycling. Beneficiaries include the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Team In Training, the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition and Fit for Learning, an initiative—provided by the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) in cooperation with Healthy Silicon Valley—that will increase physical activity and encourage healthy nutrition among elementary school students in Santa Clara County. In addition, the San Jose Cycling Classic provides a platform to raise awareness about green mobility and the San Jose Green Vision.

For more information or for general and company team registration, please visit, www.sanjosecyclingclassic.com

ABOUT SUNPOWER

SunPower Corporation (Nasdaq: SPWRA, SPWRB) designs, manufactures and delivers high-performance solar-electric systems worldwide for residential, commercial and utility-scale power plant customers. SunPower high-efficiency solar cells and solar panels generate up to 50 percent more power than conventional solar technologies and have a uniquely attractive, all-black appearance. With headquarters in San Jose, Calif., SunPower has offices in North America, Europe, Australia, and Asia. For more information, visit http://www.SunPowercorp.com.

ABOUT MATTSON TECHNOLOGY, INC.

Mattson Technology Inc. designs, manufactures, and markets semiconductor wafer processing equipment used in the fabrication of integrated circuits. Mattson Technology is a global leader in the dry strip and rapid thermal processing equipment segments, and is expanding its business into the etch segment. The company's products utilize innovative technology to deliver advanced processing performance and productivity gains to semiconductor manufacturers worldwide for the fabrication of current- and next-generation integrated circuits. For more information, please contact Mattson Technology, Inc., 47131 Bayside Parkway, Fremont, Calif. 94538. Telephone: (800) MATTSON/(510) 657-5900. Fax: (510) 492-5911. Internet: www.mattson.com.

ABOUT WEBCOR

Webcor Builders is the largest general contractor in California, by volume, and the 10th largest concrete contractor in the nation. Over thirty-five years of serving clients such as Oracle, eBay, Lucasfilm, and the California Academy of Sciences has secured Webcor's position as a leading builder of large-scale, high-profile projects. Visit www.webcor.com for more information.

ABOUT TEAM IN TRAINING

Team In Training (TNT) is the world's largest sports training program, providing professional training to run or walk a full marathon or half marathon or participate in a triathlon, hike adventure or 100 mile century bike ride. Team members raise funds to help support The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) in exchange for a life changing experience, certified coaches, training clinics (specific sports, equipment, nutrition, stretching), personal fundraising Web site, support from staff and teammates, a fundraising mentor, event fees, and lodging and airfare to more than 60 accredited events in the US and abroad. LLS raises money for cancer programs, funding research to find cures to leukemia, Hodgkin's and non-Hodgkin's lymphomas, and myeloma - the blood cancers - as well as assistance with the often overwhelming burdens faced by patients and their families currently fighting blood cancers.

ABOUT FIT FOR LEARNING

Fit for Learning is a program provided by the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) in cooperation with Healthy Silicon Valley that addresses the crisis of childhood obesity and is a multi-faceted initiative that will increase physical activity and encourage healthy nutrition among elementary school students in Santa Clara County. Fit for Learning addresses the environment at every level: the classroom, the school, the district and community. For more information, visit www.fitforlearning.org.

ABOUT SILICON VALLEY BICYCLE COALITION

The Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition (SVBC) promotes the bicycle for everyday use because they see bicycling as a central solution to the environmental, health, and social problems facing our planet. As the world becomes more aware of the climate problems caused by pollution from the transportation sector, the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition points to bicycling as a very clean and healthy transportation solution. Their programs encourage bicycle and motorist awareness and teach bicyclists safe traffic riding skills. They advocate for more bicycle friendly roads and connecting the trails across the region. SVBC volunteers http://bikesiliconvalley.org.

THE CITY OF SAN JOSE'S OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The San Jose Cycling Classic is being produced by the City of San Jose's Office of Economic Development (OED), part of the San Jose Office of the City Manager, is committed to a vital, competitive San Jose economy that increases prosperity for people and companies and enhances City revenues. The Office—which includes the San Jose Office of Cultural Affairs—guides the city's economic strategy, provides assistance for business success, helps connect employers with trained workers, and provides art and cultural resources to our community. For more information, please visit, www.sjeconomy.com.

ABOUT SAN JOSE'S GREEN VISION

On October 7, 2007, Mayor Chuck Reed introduced San Jose's Green Vision, which sets 10 ambitious goals for environmental protection and economic development. This 15-year plan envisions: creating 25,000 Clean Tech jobs; building or retrofitting 50 million square feet of green buildings; installing 100,000 solar roofs (1/10 of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's 1 million solar roofs for California initiative); reducing per capita electricity use by half; becoming a zero waste city; recycling and reusing 100 percent of the city's water; and moving to 100 percent renewable energy. A key part of the San Jose Green vision is the creation of a Green Mobility system—an integrated and sustainable way to get from place to place. Cycling plays a significant part in making this happen. The City, recognized by the League of American Bicyclists with National Bicycle Friendly Community Award, has more than 38,000 bike commuters traveling on more than 150-miles of on-street bikeways. The City offers ongoing bike commuting classes to ensure all have access to key safety training and help transition commuters from cars to bikes. San Jose is in the midst of expanding its bikeways, including a network of trail systems, allowing residents to travel more easily by bicycle, as well as encourage exploration and education about our natural habitat so residents better understand the benefits of a healthy environment and value its preservation. For more information, visit www.sanjoseca.gov/greenvision/.

ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN JOSE

From its founding in 1777 as California's first city, San Jose has been a leader, driven by its spirit of innovation. Today, San Jose stands as the largest city in Northern California and the Capital of Silicon Valley—the world's leading center of innovation. The city, the 10th largest in the U.S., is committed to remaining a top-ranked place to do business, to work and to live. For more information, visit, www.sanjoseca.gov.

###