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Cal Poly is First in the Nation for Recruitment of Aerospace and Defense Workers

SAN LUIS OBISPO – *Aviation Week & Space Technology*, the largest multimedia information and services provider to the global aviation, aerospace and defense industries, recently named Cal Poly first in the nation for industry workforce recruiting.

Cal Poly moved up to the No. 1 spot after a second-place ranking in 2009.

The magazine's list of top schools, in order, is: Cal Poly, Georgia Institute of Technology, Pennsylvania State University, Virginia Tech and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (tied), and Purdue University.

According to *Aviation Week*, the "key rationale provided for selection of universities focuses on the academic reputation of the institutions coupled with the success of previous hires from the school by the corporation."

"Cal Poly's inclusion in this list of prestigious universities is indeed an honor," said Erling Smith, acting dean of Cal Poly's College of Engineering. "This ranking attests to the leadership role that Cal Poly plays in the aerospace and defense industries.

"Our alumni have made a huge impact in this field. Our reputation rests on their shoulders and on our unswerving dedication to hands-on learning, which has provided generations of Cal Poly aerospace engineers the knowledge and practical experience they need to advance the industry.

"I'd like to congratulate—and thank—our colleagues in Cal Poly's Aerospace Engineering Department, which *U.S. News & World Report* also recently named as second in the nation for public-master's programs," Smith said.

Read the article on Aviation Week's Workforce Study at http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/bestprac_wk10.xml.

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