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FORTUNE Magazine Again Names National Instruments Among '100 Best Companies to Work For'

AUSTIN, Texas, Jan. 20, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- For the 12th consecutive year, FORTUNE magazine has named National Instruments (Nasdaq: NATI) to its annual "100 Best Companies to Work For" list. The national recognition is based on an annual survey that randomly polls employees from hundreds of companies regarding the quality of their corporate cultures and filters results through strict criteria to select the best workplaces.

"The fact that FORTUNE has again recognized NI as one of the best places to work in America shows the value of our long-term commitment to our employees and corporate culture," said Dr. James Truchard, president, CEO and cofounder of National Instruments. "The dedication of our employees has brought us through one of the toughest economic climates in history, and this recognition reinforces the value of our long-term vision."

For 35 years, National Instruments has worked to provide engineers and scientists with hardware and software solutions that help them innovate more efficiently. NI is best known for pioneering virtual instrumentation with its [LabVIEW graphical system design platform](#). As an employer, the company holds the philosophy that a well-balanced [work culture](#) improves employees' well-being, inspires excellence, advances good [corporate citizenship](#) and benefits all of the company's stakeholders. To support that philosophy, NI offers its employees professional, personal and community development initiatives, volunteer opportunities and wellness programs and facilities.

"Our success this year directly reflects the values we hold as an employer," said Mark Finger, NI vice president of worldwide human resources. "We realize that our sustained strength as a business only comes when our leaders and employees work together to maintain a positive corporate culture. The power of our culture has carried us through these challenging times and has positioned us well for long-term success."

In addition to the U.S. recognition, the Great Place to Work Institute, which compiles the list of best employers for FORTUNE each year, also named National Instruments as one of the best places to work in Germany, Italy, France and the U.K. during the last year.

To learn more about the corporate culture of National Instruments, readers can visit www.ni.com/citizenship/culture.

Methodology: How FORTUNE Chose the 100 Best

To pick the 100 Best Companies to Work For, FORTUNE partners with the Great Place to Work Institute to conduct the most extensive employee survey in corporate America. Three hundred eleven companies participated in this year's survey. Two-thirds of a company's score is based on the results of the Institute's Trust Index survey, which is sent to a random sample of employees from each company. The survey asks questions related to their attitudes about management's credibility, job satisfaction, and camaraderie. The other third of the scoring is based on the company's responses to the Institute's Culture Audit, which includes detailed questions about pay and benefit programs and a series of open-ended questions about hiring practices, internal communications, training, recognition programs and diversity efforts. Any company that is at least seven years old with more than 1,000 U.S. employees is eligible. The deadline for applying for next year's list is June 15, 2011. For an online nomination form, go to www.greatplacetowork.com.

About National Instruments

National Instruments (www.ni.com) is transforming the way engineers and scientists design, prototype and deploy systems for measurement, automation and embedded applications. NI empowers customers with off-the-shelf software such as NI LabVIEW and modular cost-effective hardware, and sells to a broad base of more than 30,000 different companies worldwide, with no one customer representing more than 3 percent of revenue and no one industry representing more than 15 percent of revenue. Headquartered in Austin, Texas, NI has more than 5,000 employees and direct operations in more than 40 countries. For the past 12 years, FORTUNE magazine has named NI one of the 100 best companies to work for in America. Readers can obtain investment information from the company's investor relations department by calling (512) 683-5090, e-mailing nati@ni.com or visiting www.ni.com/nati. (NATI-G)

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