



Northwest Iowa
Community College

603 West Park Street
Sheldon, Iowa 51201

Phone 712-324-5061 or
toll free 1-800-352-4907, Ext. 105

January 24, 2007

NEWS RELEASE

*May be published
when received.*

On January 22, the second year Heavy Equipment Program students at Northwest Iowa Community College had the opportunity to meet with Jim Hill, Demonstrator/Operator for Ziegler/Caterpillar, and Paul Kauten, Territory Manager for Ziegler/Caterpillar. The students had the opportunity to try the new 140M Motor Grader through a simulation booth.

The new 140M Motor Grader builds on the strong heritage of the H-series Motor Graders from Caterpillar. The 140H has been the industry standard in a variety of heavy construction, road building, and governmental applications. The new 140M has seen dramatic design improvements based on customer feedback to better meet the needs of heavy equipment operators. Some of the key features and benefits of the 140M are superior hydraulics and steering, two joysticks that offer precise control and unmatched ease of operation, the reduction of hand in wrist movement by 78% compared to conventional lever controls which leads to less operator fatigue, and articulation Return-to-Center feature for quick and simple turns.

Hill commented, "Caterpillar has changed the entire control system of the grader. The grader is now controlled by two joysticks rather than the old lever system. This leads to increased vision and less fatigue of the operator. As a direct result operator safety is substantially increased."

Jed Rhubee, Heavy Equipment student from Jeffers, Minnesota, commented, "This is great for us to learn before we get into the workforce. This is part of the reason I chose NCC; they have the best program offered anywhere for heavy equipment. The instructors make sure you have the best training and they teach you on the latest technology. The simulator is much more realistic than I thought it would be. It is actually very close to what it is like operating a grader on the road. I like the new joystick method of operation. It is tough when you are on the go and you have to deal with 15-20 different levers; the two joysticks streamline everything for you. With all the controls in one place it will make the graders safer. If you are used to driving the old graders with all the levers, you will fall right into this with no problem."

Roger Solberg, Heavy Equipment Instructor, stated, "This simulator is what Caterpillar brings out to the field to train the contractors. This is the future of heavy equipment operations. Everyone will have to learn this...it is the computer age."