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The Lexile Framework for Reading Honored as Finalist in Software & Information Industry Association's 2006 Codie Awards

Recognized in "Best Instructional Solution: Language Arts/Reading – Elementary" Category

DURHAM, N.C. – Feb. 7, 2006 – MetaMetrics® Inc. announced today that The Lexile Framework® for Reading is a finalist in the Software & Information Industry Association's (SIIA) 21st Annual Codie Awards. The Lexile Framework was honored in the category of Best Instructional Solution: Language Arts/Reading – Elementary.

This year, Codie Awards judges selected finalists from a record 1,026 nominations from more than 500 companies. Established in 1986, the Codie Awards recognize outstanding achievement and vision in the software, digital content and education technology industries. The Codie Awards are renowned as the "Oscars of the software industry."

The Best Instructional Solution: Language Arts/Reading – Elementary category awards the best school-based education technology solution for language arts/reading curriculum and content for students in grades preK-8.

"We founded the Codie Awards 21 years ago so that the pioneers of the then-nascent software industry could evaluate and honor each other's work," said Ken Wasch, president, SIIA. "The Codies have grown along with the markets it represents, and today competition is fiercer than ever. That makes selection as a Codie finalist a true achievement, and all the companies on this year's list should feel justifiably proud of their recognition."

As the most widely used reading measure in use today, The Lexile Framework for Reading provides a common scale for matching reader ability and text difficulty, allowing easy monitoring of student progress and reading comprehension. Recognized as the most accurate way to match readers with text, there are currently Lexile® measures for more than 100,000 books and more than 80 million articles. More than 20 million students around the country will receive a Lexile measure during the 2005-2006 school year.

“Momentum for the use of Lexiles to link assessment to instruction continues to grow in states, districts and schools across the country,” said Malbert Smith III, Ph.D., president, MetaMetrics Inc., developer of The Lexile Framework. “It is rewarding to have the education software industry understand and recognize the power of Lexiles.”

The 2006 Codie Awards will be presented at a gala event at the Westin St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco, Calif., on May 16, 2006. The Codie Awards is the only program of its kind in the industry – using a unique combination of journalist and peer reviews – and provides a rare opportunity for companies to earn the praise of their competitors.

For more information about The Lexile Framework, visit www.Lexile.com.

About the Software & Information Industry Association

The Software & Information Industry Association is the principal trade association for the software and digital content industry. SIIA provides global services in government relations, business development, corporate education and intellectual property protection to the leading companies that are setting the pace for the digital age. Go to www.sii.net for further information.

About The Lexile Framework for Reading

The Lexile Framework for Reading provides a common scale for matching reader ability and text difficulty, enabling teachers and parents to choose materials that can help to improve student reading skills across the curriculum and at home. More than 100,000 books and 80 million articles have Lexile measures, and all major standardized tests can report student reading scores in Lexiles. As the most widely adopted reading measure in use today, Lexiles are part of reading and testing programs at district, state and federal levels. The Lexile Framework was developed by MetaMetrics, an independent education company based in Durham, N.C., after 15 years of research funded by the National Institutes of Health.

For more information, press only:

The Lexile Framework for Reading

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