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**Free Help Now Available for the More Than 1 in 11 Seniors That
Failed the Spring 2005 TAKS Exams**

Austin, Texas – In response to the May 20th press release from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) entitled “91 percent of seniors pass TAKS; state performance up overall,” Sleek Software announces its offer to help the 9 percent (or 21,198) of seniors that will not receive their diploma in May. Sleek Software is offering these students free use of all its 9th, 10th, and 11th grade Incredible Tutor™ titles. All Texas seniors who still need to pass any of the four core subject TAKS tests in order to graduate are invited to participate. Students will have access to the program until completion of the next exit-level retakes on July 12–15, and can use the program at home or at school. Participants, parents, teachers, or the seniors themselves, may visit www.sleek.com/free in order to download the software. For those who are unable to download the program, information on how to receive a CD for installing the software is also available at www.sleek.com/free.

Data compiled from Spring 2005 TAKS scores showed that one central Texas school district made significant gains in math scores, while TEA preliminary reports indicated student performance throughout the state dropped in all grades in math, except the exit level. Dr. David Harriger, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction at Troy Independent School District, saw all seven grade levels improve in math where the Incredible Tutor was fully implemented. He credited the success to Sleek Software saying, “Our math scores improved significantly from 2004 to 2005. We saw the largest gains in passing rates for math in grade 7 of 11%, in grade 8 of 21%, and in grade 9 of 15%. TEA’s press release linked to state performance data showed math passing rates dropped for grade 7 by 6%, grade 8 by 5%, and grade 9 by 3%. Although state passing rates in math decreased, Troy ISD students posted substantial gains.” Troy ISD has tracked student performance on Sleek’s Incredible Tutor over the past 18 months and has preliminary data to support its continued implementation throughout the district. “We have used the Incredible Tutor program exclusively as our supplemental curriculum for the delivery of the TEKS and in preparation for the TAKS. We have seen students who have failed the exit-level exam on previous attempts use the Incredible Tutor with a nearly perfect degree of success.”

Chad Threet, president of Sleek Software, first learned of Troy ISD’s success last summer: “I was excited after hearing about Troy ISD’s success with at-risk students and the direct attribution of that success to our software. Even though the actual time spent by the students in the software was relatively short, they all enjoyed this new way of learning the material and they progressed rapidly. The fact that 20 of the 21 students went on to pass the exit-level test on the subsequent attempt validated all of our efforts and reinforced in my mind that we can have a dramatic impact on the lives of kids through what we do. This is the first set of seniors that are required to pass the TAKS before they can graduate. We want every Texas senior to have the success that Troy ISD’s group experienced.”

Sleek Software Corporation is a Texas-based company founded in 1993, specializing in software to help students perform at their peak on high-stakes tests. Sleek is committed to student success and providing the tools educators need to make learning easier and more efficient. If you would like more information about Sleek Software and the Incredible Tutor, please contact Sleek’s president, Chad Threet, at 1-800-337-5335. For more information about the Troy ISD research results, please contact Dr. David C. Harriger, Edconsult, Inc., at (860) 501-1114.

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