March 13, 2015 For Immediate Release Media Contact: Charles Wiff – (518) 326-6400



## GLOBALFOUNDRIES Launches New Coalition of Companies to Support New York Tech Valley *FIRST*® Robotics

New group raises \$486,000 to sponsor local FIRST programs, including the 2015 New York Tech Valley FIRST® Robotics Competition

MALTA, NY – GLOBALFOUNDRIES today announced the creation of a new collaborative effort pledging \$486,000 over the next three years to support local science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education through *FIRST*® Robotics. This new coalition of companies currently includes GLOBALFOUNDRIES and a number of the company's supply chain partners involved in the Fab 8 campus, including Applied Materials, ASML, KLA Tencor, Lam Research, Mattson Technology, M+W Group, PDF Solutions, SCREEN Semiconductor Solutions and Turner Construction. More companies are expected to get involved and will be announced as this effort gets underway and continues to expand.

Together, these companies will support local STEM programs over the next three years through *FIRST* Robotics, including the 2015 <u>New York Tech Valley *FIRST*® Robotics Competition</u> (FRC) for high school students. This year's *FIRST* Robotics event, which is also supported by GE, National Grid, Time Warner Cable and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, will take place at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) East Campus Athletic Village (ECAV) in Troy, NY from March 19 – 21, 2015.

*FIRST* is a national 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which aims to inspire young people grades K-12 to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in mentor-based programs that build science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) skills, while inspiring innovation and future careers. The robotics competition at RPI is the culminating annual event of the *FIRST* Robotics Competition Program and will be the region's second annual event this

year. In addition, the organization features programs for younger kids, including the Jr. *FIRST* LEGO League, The *FIRST* LEGO League, and *FIRST* Tech Challenge.

GLOBALFOUNDRIES is honored to be among a growing network of corporations, educational and professional institutions, foundations and individuals that support *FIRST* in New York's Tech Valley. As part of our partnership with the organization, GLOBALFOUNDRIES has pledged \$25,000 per year for the next three years, for a total of \$75,000, and has invited supply chain partners to get involved through this new coalition.

"It's important that students start out with a good foundation in STEM and this new coalition is designed to directly impact K-12 students in the local region," said Dr. Thomas Caulfield, senior vice president and general manager of Fab 8, GLOBALFOUNDRIES. "Our goal is to better prepare Tech Valley's workforce for tomorrow by supporting education and workforce development with the hope of inspiring students to pursue education and career pathways in STEM related fields. No one company or organization can do this alone. Just as the success of our Fab 8 campus is a team effort, so is our approach to investing in the local community. I'm very excited to be working with these great partners as we look to make a significant impact on local STEM education."

"The GLOBALFOUNDRIES coalition joins forces with local corporate and educational organizations to strengthen and grow New York Tech Valley *FIRST*. Their support will create access to *FIRST* programs for local youth and prepare students for the growing number of tech related jobs in the Capital Region," said Elliott Masie, former *FIRST* Board Member and Honorary Co-Chair of New York Tech Valley *FIRST* Executive Advisory.

As a leading corporate citizen of the Tech Valley community, GLOBALFOUNDRIES works collaboratively with a wide arrange of partners to achieve business success, but our commitment goes further – we have a responsibility and an opportunity to do good in our community. By supporting programs like STEM, we can make an investment in the future of the Tech Valley region and its businesses. This theme is one that is seen across GLOBALFOUNDRIES, worldwide.

The New York Tech Valley 2015 FIRST® Robotics Competition will take place March 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>. Follow the event on Twitter at @NYTVFRC, <u>@FIRSTweets</u> and monitor the discussion using the hashtag #morethanrobots.

## More event Information: http://www.techvalleyfirst.org

To see a PSA highlighting Corporate and education support to *FIRST* Robotics in New York Tech Valley, visit <u>http://www.techvalleyfirst.org/index.php?page=video</u>

## About FIRST

Accomplished inventor <u>Dean Kamen</u> founded <u>FIRST</u> (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) in 1989 to inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Based in Manchester, N.H., FIRST designs accessible, innovative programs to build self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills while motivating young people to pursue opportunities in science, technology, and engineering. With support from over 200 of the Fortune 500 companies and more than \$19 million in college scholarships, the not-for-profit organization hosts the <u>FIRST Robotics Competition</u> (FRC) for students in Grades 9-12; <u>FIRST Tech Challenge</u> (FTC) for Grades 7-12; <u>FIRST LEGO League</u> (FLL) for Grades 4-8; and <u>Junior FIRST LEGO League</u> (Jr.FLL) for Grades K-3. <u>Gracious Professionalism</u> is a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community. To learn more about FIRST, go to <u>www.usfirst.org.</u>