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Hitachi High-Tech America's Inspire STEM Education Outreach Program Reacts to COVID-19 with Proactive Efforts

Why STEM Education Matters

Hitachi High-Tech America's Inspire STEM Education Outreach Program's mission is to inspire the next generation of innovative science pioneers through the advancement of science, technology, engineering, and math. Our commitment to developing STEM initiatives that empower future scientists and engineers is one we take very seriously, especially now with the current COVID-19 Pandemic that has grounded the world and many children's education to a standstill.

Our work in our communities continues. In the San Francisco, California area, Diablo College professors are using the SEM to support and create content for students currently continuing their classes online. Farther north in Portland, Oregon, our outreach program partner, Jennifer Wells, is collecting student samples to help image and analyze with EDS and digitally send the data to the students so they can continue to prepare for a statewide competition, International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), later in the year.

In Australia, the SEMs have been moved to various universities. In Queensland, Australia, the SEM will be utilized at The University of Queensland Centre for Microscopy and Microanalysis, CMM@UQ, by Dr. Roger Wepf as part of the UQ efforts to combat the virus. In Victoria, an existing customer (Model S-4300SE), Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIRO), has been asked to do urgent research on new materials for facemasks. Mr. Colin Veitch, manager of the Microscopy Laboratory, will be using the Hitachi TM-4000Plus Tabletop SEM to do key research to help fight back the pandemic. This came about with Mr. Veitch knowing about the Inspire STEM Education Program being in the region and needing an SEM when their existing technology failed.



As COVID-19 is effecting us all, Hitachi High-Tech America's Inspire STEM Education Outreach Program is committed to continuing its work. This program is adapting with the time and gaining knowledge to provide innovating ways to help. This may include online capability, live sessions for students or educators remotely, and sharing resources to assist in providing materials for the virtual classroom which we are now seeing. Stay tuned for more information. To receive news on our continuing efforts or share resources please contact us at STEM@hitachi-hta.com and please follow us on twitter @ [Hitachi_STEM](https://twitter.com/Hitachi_STEM) and website www.InspireSTEMeducation.us.

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