

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Event challenges high school auto tech students in diagnosis and repair under the hood**

**Cerritos, Calif., April 21, 2010** – SMCDA-sponsored Southeast ROP students Alejandro Torres and Juan Prado (pictured here, left to right), participated in the 2010 National Automotive Technology Competition Auto Tech students at the New York Auto Show. This is the fifth year the SMCDA sponsored a team from the Southland area in the highly competitive event.

During the competition, teams comprised of two high school students are challenged to diagnose and repair a number of pre-assigned problems or "bugs" under a car's hood within an allotted amount of time. Each "bug" correctly repaired is worth a number of points, depending on the level of difficulty. To prepare for the competition, students train with their high school instructors and with certified technicians at local franchised automobile dealerships.

"It is an honor to have our students place so well in the competition," said Todd Leutheuser, executive director of the SMCDA.

"They've worked hard, and we're proud of their efforts."

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