ETA PRESS CONFERENCE
November 21, 1983

Thank you ____________. It's wonderful to be here and share this moment.

I certainly want to add my thanks and the appreciation of my Control Data colleagues for all of those whose support has made possible the decision the governor announced today.

The commitments to ETA Systems are major ones. They will benefit Control Data, Cray Research, Sperry-Univac, Honeywell, and all the other firms who are part of the supercomputer capital of the world.

But I would hope we could emphasize to the people of Minnesota that those commitments have deep meaning for all of them as well. By enhancing the environment for science and technology, a scenario is being replicated that has brought rich bounties of economic benefits to other areas in our country.
In the Silicon Valley of California and along Route 128 in Massachusetts, a few struggling technological companies have grown and multiplied. They have attracted a multitude of vendors and subcontractors, triggered scores of spinoff companies, and provided the foundation for an expanding tax base. And, most importantly, this atmosphere has attracted the intellectual capabilities, interests, and talent of people....very special people....who break through the frontiers of science. The companies identified with these breakthroughs have thousands of employees, but the multiplier affect among vendors and suppliers creates thousands of additional jobs that owe their existence to the technological companies.

An environment of achievement and excitement attracts more of the same. Technical people want to be where the action is. Now, as Minnesota tightens its grip on its place as the supercomputer capital, we can expect the computer community all over the world to take notice.

The chair in supercomputing at the University of Minnesota will send the message that leaders in the field are here. The institute will tell engineers and scientists that the tools are available here to do big things. Most of all, the commitment shown by our governmental leaders today will tell them that they are wanted. It's nice to be wanted, and ETA is only a beginning. The commitments announced today mean Minnesota will remain the leader in supercomputer research and development. It's nice to be here on the Silicon Prairie.
I'd like to make one additional point. Control Data has long championed the chase of technological cooperation. Business must cooperate with each other and with government if we are to make an impact on the problems of society and meet the competition we all face from abroad.

Certainly, today's event provides an outstanding example of the kind of cooperation we can all take pride in. I'm proud of ETA; I'm proud of the progress of our state.

To be honest with you, Governor, I'm busting my buttons. There's one for you -- and a box full to give your associates and the friends you make for Minnesota around the world -- and I'm hoping everyone in this room will wear one to help us spread the word.

Thank you.