

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Benchmark Education Receives a “Standout Solution” Honor in 2024’s SmartBrief Innovation Awards In AI

***Assess 360* is recognized as a cutting-edge AI-driven product.**

NEW ROCHELLE, NY, Nov. 18, 2024—Leading educational publisher Benchmark Education Company (BEC) is pleased to announce that its new digital assessment solution, *Assess 360*, has been selected as a Standout Solution in the 2024 SmartBrief Innovation Awards in AI, in the Education category.

The SmartBrief Innovation Awards in AI identify and celebrate the most cutting-edge solutions that use Artificial Intelligence. The forward-looking awards spotlight the best products and/or solutions nominated by the organizations that are leading the evolution of AI into 2025.

Assess 360, which is currently undergoing a large-scale validation study, is an AI-powered solution that revolutionizes literacy assessment for K-6 educators. Designed for comprehensive evaluation and available in both English and Spanish, it uses next-generation speech recognition technology that allows students to independently complete assessments. *Assess 360* serves as a screener, diagnostic, and progress monitoring tool, focusing on essential literacy components: phonological awareness, phonics, letter knowledge, high-frequency words, spelling, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. It delivers precise and actionable insights, personalized instructional guidance, and data-driven progress tracking that ensures optimal literacy outcomes for every student.

“We are gratified to receive this recognition from the SmartBrief Innovation Awards in AI,” BEC President Sera Hoffman said. “Our central mission has always been to create products that fully support the efforts of educators and help students reach their greatest potential. This honor affirms our focus on quality and our commitment to innovation.”

ABOUT BENCHMARK EDUCATION COMPANY

Benchmark Education Company (BEC) is a leading publisher of core, supplemental, and intervention literacy and language resources in English and Spanish, with valid and reliable digital assessments that inform instruction. BEC is also a provider of exceptional professional development to educators.

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BEC is recognized as a responsive publisher that offers equally rigorous and engaging digital, print, and hybrid learning materials grounded in the Science of Reading research. BEC monitors research outcomes carefully to create effective foundational resources that include strong decoding materials with systematic and explicit instruction and high-quality resources focused on language development and comprehension. BEC's content-rich and authentic texts offer instruction in close reading and analysis, multiple perspectives, and authentic literature while building world knowledge and reflecting the individuality of every student in each diverse classroom.

Family owned and operated for more than 25 years, BEC is committed to partnering with educators to provide the best for all students through resources of exceptional quality, world-class professional learning, and effective and dedicated customer support.