

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**COGNEX CORP. PLEDGES \$75,000 TO MORSE INSTITUTE LIBRARY**

**Natick, MA High-Tech Company Provides Funds  
for Computer Technology at Local Library**

NATICK, MA, October 27, 1997—Cognex Corporation (NASDAQ: CGNX), the world's leading supplier of machine vision systems, today announced it will donate \$75,000 to Natick's Morse Institute Library, a public library located near the company's worldwide headquarters. The donation, to be paid over the next five years, is earmarked for purchases of new computer technology. Cognex also announced additional donations of \$25,000 to schools and community groups within the town of Natick, as described in a separate press release today.

"We've built our company's success on smart, innovative uses of technology," said Dr. Robert J. Shillman, Cognex's President, CEO, and Chairman. "That's why Cognex decided that helping the town's library to keep pace with changes in technology was one of the most valuable ways we could contribute to our community."

At a meeting of Natick's Board of Selectmen, Shillman presented a check for the first \$15,000 of the grant to the library. Library officials will use Cognex's grant to expand the library's network of computers, which library patrons will be able to use to search the collections of the regional Minuteman library network and access information through the Internet. The Morse Institute Library recently completed a \$10 million addition and renovation to its original 1873 building to create a state-of-the-art information resource for the community.

(more)

In accepting the award on behalf of the library, Paula Polk, Director of the Morse Institute Library, said, "The generosity of Cognex Corporation is inspiring. This major gift enables the Morse Institute Library to begin implementing Phase I of its technology upgrade and to fulfill its vision of providing a broad array of electronic information and computer services to our community of users."

Cognex Corporation designs, develops, manufactures, and markets machine vision systems, or computers that can "see." Cognex is the world's leader in the machine vision industry, having shipped to date more than 65,000 machine vision systems. Cognex's Modular Vision Systems Division, headquartered in Natick, Massachusetts, specializes in machine vision systems which are used for automating the manufacture of a wide range of discrete items and for assuring their quality. Cognex's Surface Inspection Systems Division, headquartered in Alameda, California, specializes in machine vision systems which are used for inspecting the surfaces of products manufactured in a continuous fashion, such as metals, paper, and plastics. In addition to its corporate headquarters in Natick, Massachusetts, Cognex also has regional offices located throughout North America, Japan, Europe, and Southeast Asia. Visit Cognex on-line at <http://www.cognex.com>.

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