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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ECIA Posts Latest Channel Channel Podcast: Dale Ford Interviews Tony Uphoff, CEO of Thomas

Atlanta – ECIA's latest edition of The Channel Channel Podcast features an information-filled discussion between two self-described 'data geeks,' ECIA Chief Analyst Dale Ford and Tony Uphoff, President and CEO of Thomas, parent company of industrial product sourcing and supplier selection platform Thomasnet.com®. The two discuss what the data from the over 1.5 million monthly sourcing events reveals.

"Our data has given us a ringside seat to the technology driven transformation of industrial manufacturing, accelerated by the COVID-19 crisis," Uphoff declared. "These data are so important we have decided to share insights with the industry through a new free data point, the Thomas Manufacturing Index (TMX)"

One of the major themes discussed on the podcast is the shift away from concerns about tariffs to a renewed interest in reshoring of manufacturing to shorten supply chains and bring more resilience in response to crises like the pandemic. "The recovery in the electronic components industry is gaining steam," continued Uphoff. "Yet there are still pockets of disruption. Companies that are doing the best are those that are furthest along the path to digital transformation of their business processes."

"This discussion is particularly timely given the need for strategic planning going into 2021," added Ford. "I encourage all our listeners to pay close attention to what Tony has to say about the recovery, based on his close proximity to supplier and buyer behavior at a macro level."

The podcast can be found at www.ecianow.org/podcasts.

## About ECIA

The Electronic Components Industry Association (ECIA) is made up of the leading electronic component manufacturers, their manufacturer representatives and authorized distributors. ECIA members share a common goal of promoting and improving the business environment for the authorized sale of electronic components. Comprised of a broad array of leaders and professionals representing all phases of the electronics components supply chain, ECIA is where business optimization, product authentication and industry advocacy come together. ECIA members develop industry guidelines and technical standards, as well as generate critical business intelligence. For more information, visit www.ecianow.org or call 678-393-9990.

## About Thomas

Thomas is a provider of actionable information, data, analysis and tools for industry. Its solutions include Thomasnet.com<sup>®</sup>, the largest most active buyer-supplier network. The company sells data-driven advertising, product management software and analytics that allow in-market buyers to find the right products and services when they need them.

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