The new Nebraska Agriculture Industry Education Center at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis is now complete with dedication scheduled at 1 p.m. CT Nov. 18.

Construction began in October 2010 on one of the largest and most innovative building projects in NCTA's history, said Weldon Sleight, dean of the college in Curtis.

"This will not only increase our capacity to produce more students to return to their communities as farmers/ranchers and business owners, but also increase the quality of living and the learning atmosphere at NCTA," Sleight said.

For the last two years, four major projects have been completed at a cost of $15 million. The projects are the Nebraska Agriculture Industry Education Center, a large addition to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital part of the Dr. Walter Long Veterinary Hospital Addition, the Aggie Central Residence Hall and the Biomass Project designed to heat the campus with red cedar wood chips. In addition, the George and Carol Garlick Aggie West Residence Hall will be recognized.

The Nebraska ag industry, alumni and friends provided substantial financial support for these projects, Sleight said.

"The Nebraska Agriculture Industry Education Center will be used a lot by the different ag industries in Nebraska that have supported it from the beginning," he said. Industry will use the center for meetings and conferences.

New specialty programs that will encourage and help the students to return to their hometowns and farms are the 100 Beef Cow Advantage Program, the 100 Acre Farm Advantage Program and the Business Builders Program.