## For Immediate Release

13th Veterinary Technician Specialty Recognized by NAVTA

August 16th, 2016 - Albert Lea, Minnesota: The National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA) announces the thirteenth veterinary technician specialty academy to the veterinary technology profession. The Academy of Veterinary Ophthalmic Technicians (AVOT) has been recognized as an official specialty by NAVTA. The AVOT joins the existing twelve NAVTA recognized veterinary technician specialties: dentistry, anesthesia/analgesia, internal medicine, emergency & critical care, surgery, equine, zoology, behavior, clinical practice, nutrition, clinical pathology and dermatology.

"The NAVTA Veterinary Technician Specialties give veterinary technicians an option for career advancement by taking their skill set to a veterinary technician specialist level by mastering an advanced skill set and education in a specific area driven by their passion," stated Ann Wortinger, BIS, LVT, VTS (ECC, SAIM, Nutrition), Chairperson of the NAVTA Committee on Veterinary Technician Specialties (CVTS). "We are thrilled to have an increasing number of veterinary technicians seeking this level of specialization, as well as an increasing interest in recognition in various areas of veterinary medicine."

"The AVOT's mission is to advocate ocular health while advancing the knowledge and practice standards in the field of ophthalmology. The Academy operates under the guidance of NAVTA and the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO) to foster yearly continuing education, professional development, and networking with industry partners.", says Natalie Herring, LVT, President of the AVOT.

The NAVTA Committee on Veterinary Technician Specialists was formed in 1994 and is recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). The Committee provides guidelines to the veterinary technician organizations to facilitate the formation of a specialty and assists the Academies throughout their years while in existence. Academies develop pathways and advanced standards that candidates must complete and maintain in order to be awarded the designation of Veterinary Technician Specialist (VTS) in their specific discipline.

The National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA), is a non-profit organization that represents and promotes the profession of Veterinary Technology. NAVTA provides direction, education, support and coordination for its members. Incorporated in 1981, NAVTA is the national organization devoted exclusively to developing and enhancing the profession of veterinary technology. For more information about NAVTA and the Veterinary Technician Specialties, visit their website at www.navta.net.

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