

MEAM Senior Capstone Design Project

Administrative Details for Company Participants

1. What happens to the students' reports of their work on a project?

The Company will be given a copy of the final report and may use it for any purpose. We would like you to give appropriate credit to students for their work. Of course, we expect that you will not use the names of the students, the faculty or the University in publicity or advertising without written permission.

2. Who owns a prototype that is made by the students on a project and can the Company use it?

The prototype will be owned by the University but we will agree to place it on extended loan with the Company who sponsored the project in which it was designed. The university would like to retain the opportunity to recall the prototype should it have a need to use it for education or research.

3. Can the Company provide confidential or proprietary information to the students?

These projects are generally expected to involve non-confidential information. Since the students are not University employees, the University cannot agree to accept responsibility for the provision of confidential information to them, nor can it require them to accept personal liability for such information. The faculty mentors will discuss the conditions for exchange of confidential information with the Company should the need arise.

4. Does the Company acquire patent or other intellectual property rights to the students' work?

Since the ideal project involves fundamental rather than specialized technical skills, the likelihood of protectable intellectual property resulting from the students' projects is limited. Since the students are not University employees the University cannot agree to provide intellectual property rights in student-owned inventions nor can it require them to provide such rights. The faculty mentors will facilitate discussion between the Company and the students should it be necessary to address the issue of intellectual property rights. This discussion would be expected to occur prior to any student beginning work on the related project. Please remember that student prototypes are expected to be eligible for presentation at the Design Expo that occurs near the end of the semester, normally in April or December.

5. How will the Company know when and to whom to pay its sponsorship fee?

The University will invoice you and provide remittance information in the invoice or upon request.

6. Will the Company get an accounting of how its sponsorship fee is spent?

No. The University will commingle all the sponsorship fees into a single account and therefore will be unable to give an accounting of how money is spent on each project.