

Donaldson Supports Normandale Community College's Project Lead the Way Program

Donaldson Company, through the Donaldson Foundation, granted Normandale Community College in fiscal 2009, \$23,575 to support educational initiatives under the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) program. PLTW aims to bridge middle school, high school and college level classes to facilitate a student's understanding of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

In 2008, Normandale Community College was accredited as the first, and to date only, Community College PLTW Associate in the State of Minnesota. The program's curriculum incorporates hands-on, activity-based learning approaches that benefit youth using a wide variety of learning styles and backgrounds.

"The goal of our outreach program is to facilitate young students' understanding of science and math through the applications of engineering technology which will then spark an interest to pursue STEM-related careers," said Nancy Louwagie, Adjunct Instructor in Nanotechnology at Normandale Community College. "The grant from the Donaldson Foundation will fund a comprehensive outreach program based on the PLTW curriculum that is geared for sixth grade to college level students in the areas of basic engineering technology."

Currently, more than 100 Minnesota schools participate in Project Lead the Way, which is coordinated by the Minnesota Center for Engineering & Manufacturing Excellence. While endorsed by the Department of Education, PLTW is funded primarily by private sources, such as corporate and private foundations.

The mission of the Donaldson Foundation is to support initiatives that will positively impact the communities in which Donaldson employees live and work through education.

"The Normandale PLTW program highlights its strengths in nanotechnology, vacuum technology and semiconductors," said Kristine Graham, president of the Donaldson Foundation. "The PLTW's STEM-based program tracks to our focus of supporting educational programs in our communities. We applaud Normandale for its initiatives to increase STEM educational opportunities throughout Minnesota."

Established in 1966, the Donaldson Foundation funds charitable causes on behalf of Donaldson Company, Inc. Since 1991, the Foundation has contributed 2% of the company's earnings each year, making it a Minnesota Keystone participant. Its mission is to positively impact the communities in which its employees live and work by supporting education. To learn more about the Donaldson Foundation, visit the website at <http://www.donaldson.com/en/about/community/foundation.html>.

About Donaldson Company

Donaldson is a leading worldwide provider of filtration systems that improve people's lives, enhance our Customers' equipment performance, and protect our environment. We are a technology-driven company committed to satisfying our Customers' needs for filtration solutions through innovative research and development, application expertise, and global presence. Our employees contribute to the Company's success by supporting our Customers at our more than 100 sales, manufacturing, and distribution locations around the world.

Donaldson is a member of the S&P MidCap 400 and Russell 1000 indices, and our shares trade on the NYSE under the symbol DCI. Additional information is available at www.donaldson.com.

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Contact:

Cory Gunderson

952.887.3855

cory.gunderson@donaldson.com

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