NATIONAL FLUID POWER ASSOCIATION
NFPA

NFPA | Education and Technology Foundation

2026

DONOR IMPACT REPORT



THANK YOU

Members of the National Fluid Power Association (NFPA) consistently rank the recruitment of a skilled workforce as among the most challenging issues their companies face. As a result, NFPA has identified growing the fluid power workforce as one of its primary strategic priorities. It is central to its mission of strengthening the fluid power industry. NFPA seeks to increase the number of students educated in fluid power, and to connect them to jobs in our industry.

The NFPA Education and Technology Foundation is a tax-exempt, charitable organization, affiliated with NFPA, that is dedicated to meeting this workforce development need. In our 2025-26 recognition year, 114 donors gave more than $482,000 to support our mission.

For every dollar donated, we allocated:

- 7¢ to support the **Fluid Power Action Challenge –** an outreach program that engages middle and high school students in learning about and having fun with fluid power.
- 4¢ to support our **Fast Track High Schools –** schools that teach fluid power to high school students and serve as feeders into our Fast Track Technical Colleges.
- 7¢ to support our **Fast Track Technical Colleges –** schools with a certificate or degree program validated to teach core fluid power competencies.
- 11¢ to support our **Fluid Power Scholarships –** programs that pay tuition expenses for promising students at both technical colleges and universities.
- 8¢ to support our **Fluid Power Curriculum Grants –** a program that provides funding to create or sustain fluid power curriculum at our Power Partner Universities.
- 11¢ to support **Fluid Power Clubs –** extra-curricular clubs that engage undergraduate students with fluid power technology and activities at universities around the country.
- 51¢ to support the **Fluid Power Vehicle Challenge –** a competition that challenges undergraduate students to design and build fluid-powered vehicles while connecting with industry mentors and careers.

Because of your support, our programs are helping to change the talent pool available to our industry. More young people are aware of the fluid power industry. More 2-year technical college and 4-year university graduates have specific training in fluid power. More technical colleges and universities have education programs focused on fluid power. And more partnerships between these schools and our industry are increasing access to highly talented candidates.

Thank you very much for your support!

2025-26
PASCAL SOCIETY DONORS

The Pascal Society is our annual giving society. Pascal Society donors have committed to donating an annual amount equal to at least 50% of their NFPA dues.

- Alro Steel
- Applied Industrial Technologies
- Bosch Rexroth
- Bucher Hydraulics
- Caterpillar
- Comer Industries
- Custom Hydraulics & Design
- Danfoss
- Delta Motion
- Deltrol Fluid Products
- Employee Owned Holdings
- Famic
- FluiDyne Fluid Power
- FORCE America
- GPM Controls
- HAWE Hydraulik
- Helios Technologies
- Husco
- HYDAC
- Hydra-Power Systems
- IC-Fluid Power
- IFP Motion Solutions
- IFPS
- IMI
- Industrial Hard Chrome
- KYB Americas
- Lehigh Fluid Power
- LHY Powertrain
- Main Manufacturing Products
- Marmon/Keystone
- MHA Zentgraf
- Micromatic
- Mosey's Production Machinists
- Motion
- National Tube Supply
- Nott Company
- OEM Controls
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- Poclain Hydraulics
- Power Systems Florida
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- SunSource
- Trelleborg Sealing Solutions
- VIS Hydraulics
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- RHK Hydraulic Cylinder Services
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- Sharon Tube Company
- Sheffer Corporation
- SRC of Lexington
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- Technics Assembly & Test
- TraceParts
- Walvoil Fluid Power
- Wilson Company
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- WTWH Media
- Xirro



FLUID POWER ACTION CHALLENGE

33,000+ Middle and High School Students Engaged in Fluid Power Activities

The Fluid Power Action Challenge is a STEM-based competition that challenges middle and high school students to solve a real-life engineering problem by building a fluid power mechanism made from balsa wood and plastic syringes. The students work in teams to design and build a fluid power mechanism and then compete against other teams in a timed competition to see who can score the most points with their fluid power device.

Hundreds of individuals in NFPA member companies and education partner institutions have been involved in mentorship, classroom activities, and events related to the Fluid Power Action Challenge, which have engaged more than 33,000 students to date.

2025-26 FLUID POWER ACTION CHALLENGE CHAMPIONS

The following NFPA member companies and education partners hosted a Fluid Power Action Challenge event in their local communities this year.

- Bucher Hydraulics
- Deltrol Fluid Products
- EOH-Hydraquip
- Price Engineering
- FORCE America
- Peninsular Cylinder
- Permco











2025-26 FLUID POWER ACTION CHALLENGE GRANTS

The following schools and organizations were awarded grants this year to facilitate their participation in Fluid Power Action Challenge events.

- **Alcoa City Schools** - Alcoa, TN
- **Bayside Middle School** - Bayside, WI
- **Beer Middle School** - Warren, MI
- **Brandon High School** - Ortonville, MI
- **Concordia Preparatory School** - Towson, MD
- **Corry Area Middle School** - Corry, PA
- **Discovery Middle School** - Alexandria, MN
- **Downtown Montessori Academy** - Milwaukee, WI
- **Dundee Middle School** - West Dundee, IL
- **Emmanuel Christian Academy Aerospace Institute** - Springfield, OH
- **Fergus Falls Public Schools** - Fergus Falls, MN
- **Future Urban Leaders** - Milwaukee, WI
- **Girlstart** - Austin, TX
- **Glenwood Community Middle School** - Glenwood, IA
- **Great Oaks Career Campuses High School** - Cincinnati, OH
- **Hamilton High School** - Sussex, WI
- **Hester Jr. High School** - Franklin Park, IL
- **Kettle Moraine Middle School** - Dousman, WI
- **Les Paul Middle School** - Waukesha, WI
- **Longfellow Middle School** - Wauwatosa, WI
- **Maple Dale School** - Fox Point, WI
- **Maryland Avenue Montessori School** - Milwaukee, WI
- **Milkovich Middle School** - Maple Heights, OH
- **Monarch High School** - Louisville, CO
- **Parrish Community High** - Parrish, FL
- **Richmond School District** - Sussex, WI
- **Sagertown Jr./ Sr. High** - Sagertown, PA
- **St. Augustine Preparatory Academy** - Milwaukee, WI
- **St. Louis Catholic High School** - Lake Charles, LA
- **Swallow School** - Hartland, WI
- **Swanville High School** - Swanville, MN
- **The Innovation School** - Bismark, ND
- **Titus Area School District** - Titusville, PA
- **Union Grove High School** - Union Grove, WI
- **Upper Valley Career Center** - Piqua, OH
- **Valley View Middle School** - Germantown, OH
- **Waukesha STEM Academy** - Waukesha, WI

FAST TRACK

HIGH SCHOOL AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES

7 Regional Hubs of Activity Generating Career-Ready Candidates for Fluid Power

A Fast Track to Fluid Power Hub consists of a technical college with a certificate or degree program validated to teach core fluid power competencies, ringed by a number of feeder high schools that teach fluid power to and engage their students in fluid power activities and career exploration.



As of **2025-26** there are seven Fast Track Hubs in this program:

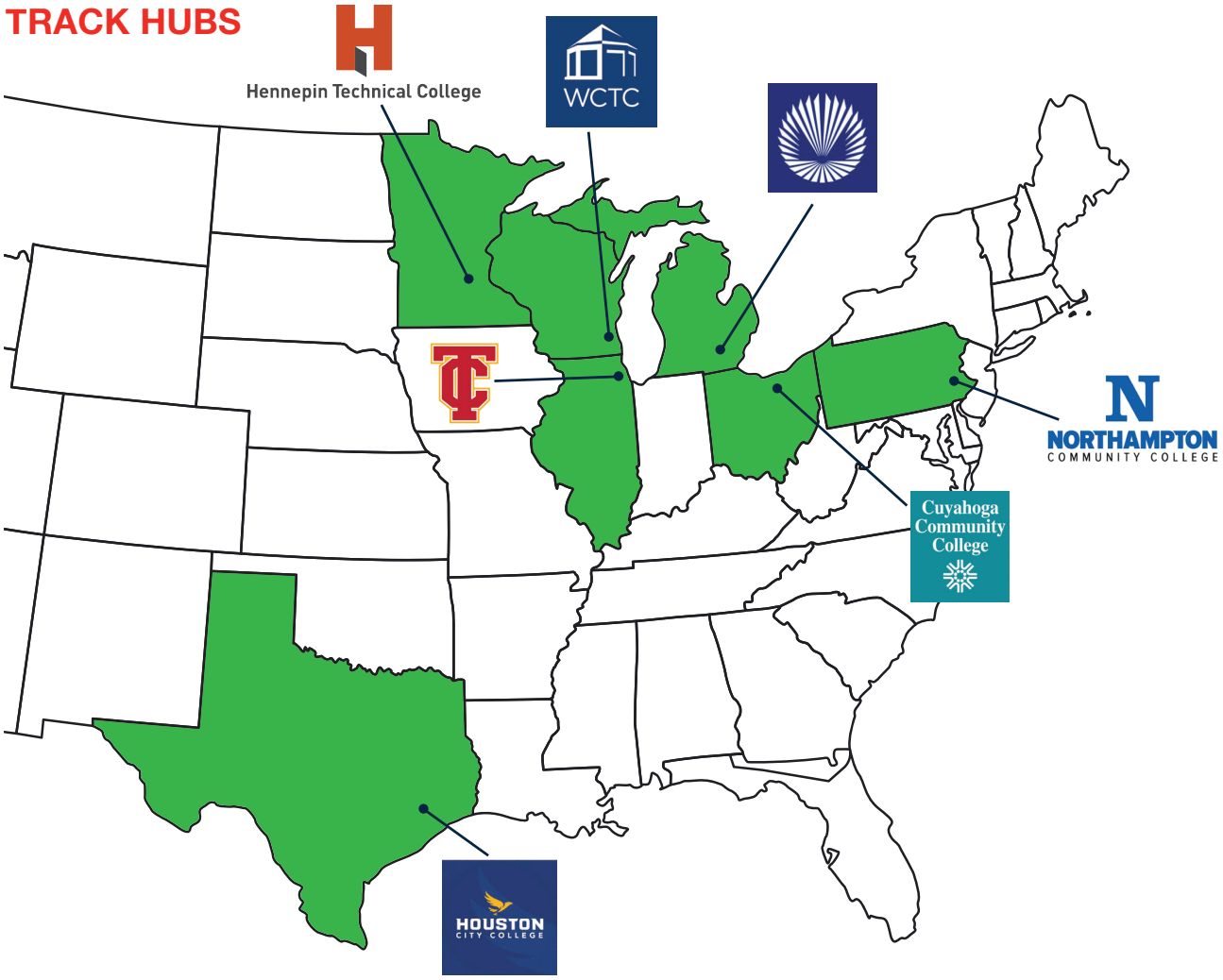
- **Hennepin Technical College** - Minneapolis, MN
- **Houston City College** - Houston, TX
- **Macomb Community College** - Detroit, MI
- **Northampton Community College** - Bethlehem, PA
- **Tri-C Cuyahoga Community College** - Cleveland, OH
- **Triton College** - Chicago, IL
- **Waukesha County Technical College** - Milwaukee, WI







FAST TRACK HUBS



Each Technical College and its feeder high schools receive support from the NFPA Foundation to ensure they have the resources needed to teach fluid power to their students – and some high schools receive funding to help their students attend Fluid Power Day programming at the technical college. Moreover, many NFPA members serve on Workforce Engagement Groups in each Hub region, assisting in this development and mentoring students about fluid power careers.







2025-26
FLUID POWER SCHOLARSHIPS

149 Scholarships Awarded to Further Fluid Power Education

Fluid Power Scholarships are offered to graduating high school students, and students enrolled in technical colleges and universities, to pursue fluid power degrees or certificates. Hundreds of individuals in NFPA member companies and education partner institutions have served as scholarship judges and reviewers, with 149 scholarships awarded to date.

The following individuals were awarded **$2,500 scholarships** this year to study fluid power at these institutions:

- **Adrian Tlustochowski** - University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- **Brandon Reshetar** - Hennepin Technical College
- **Carter Worm** - Michigan Technological University
- **Chandler Folkerts** - Bates College
- **Cord Akey** - Purdue University (Raymond Hanley Memorial Award)
- **Daksh Jhanjee** - Georgia Institute of Technology
- **Daniel Lee** - Harvard University
- **Devin Digman** - University of Wisconsin-Madison
- **Kaitlyn Roman** - Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- **Kevin Shen** - Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- **Malcolm Smith** - Stanford University
- **Miles Carter** - Mississippi State University
- **Rithwick Lakshmanan** - Iowa State University (Robert Mackey Memorial Award)
- **Shresth Singh** - Duke University
- **Steven Hamley** - University of Central Florida
- **Tina Trinh** - Oregon State University
- **Zachary Mancini** - Kettering University





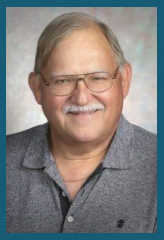
NFPA Fluid Power Robotics Challenge

2025-26 FLUID POWER ROBOTICS CHALLENGE

The NFPA Foundation awarded the following scholarships this year to the following past winners of the Fluid Power Robotics Challenge, a program designed to increase the amount of fluid power used in high school robotics competitions:

- **Colton Seitz** - Alabama University
- **Evan Tan** - University of Arkansas
- **Megan Tian** - Massachusetts Institute of Technology

2025-26 TOM WANKE LEGACY SCHOLARSHIPS



Tom Wanke was a monumental figure in fluid power, active for more than 50 years and influencing generations of fluid power engineers through his work at the Milwaukee School of Engineering, its Fluid Power Institute, and with the National Fluid Power Association. In his honor, the **Tom Wanke Legacy Fund awarded $2,500 scholarships** to the following individuals this year to study fluid power at these institutions:

- **Kayla Vallecillo** - University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- **Keira Boone** - Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- **Ousmane Nikiema** - Milwaukee School of Engineering

FLUID POWER CURRICULUM GRANTS AND CLUBS

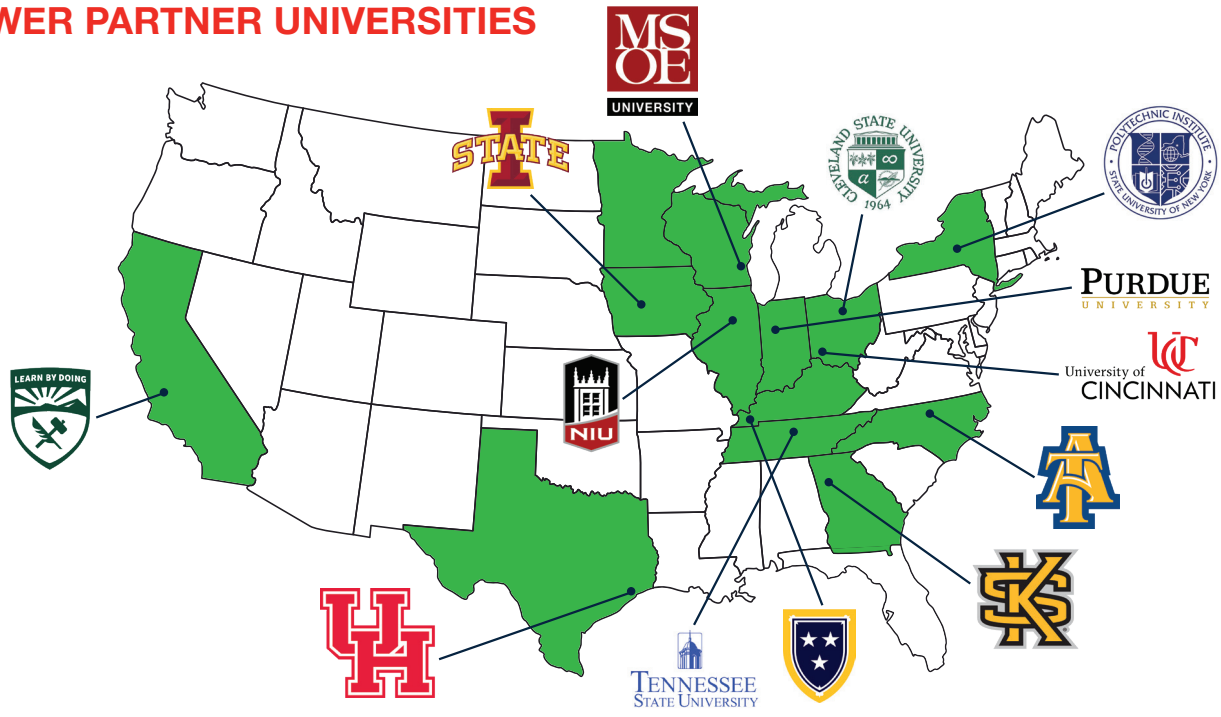
Teaching and Engaging the Next Generation of Fluid Power Engineers

A Power Partner University is a 4-year school committed to teaching the next generation of fluid power engineers through a variety of offered curriculum and activities.

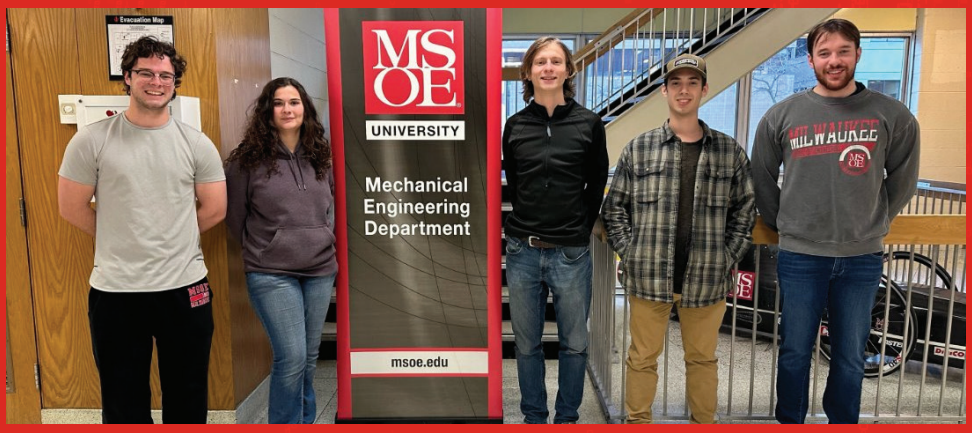
As of **2025-26** there are thirteen Power Partner Universities in this program:

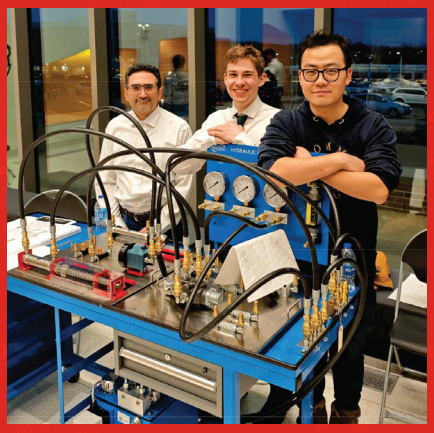
- **California Polytechnic State University** - San Luis Obispo, CA
- **Cleveland State University** - Cleveland, OH
- **Iowa State University** - Ames, IA
- **Kennesaw State University** - Kennesaw, GA
- **Milwaukee School of Engineering** - Milwaukee, WI
- **Murray State University** - Murray, KY
- **North Carolina A&T University** - Greensboro, NC
- **Northern Illinois University** - Rockford, IL
- **Purdue University** - West Lafayette, IN
- **State University of New York Polytechnic Institute** - Utica, NY
- **Tennessee State University** - Nashville, TN
- **University of Cincinnati** - Cincinnati, OH
- **University of Houston** - Houston, TX

POWER PARTNER UNIVERSITIES



Through our Curriculum Grant program, each Power Partner University receives support from the NFPA Foundation to ensure they have the resources needed to teach fluid power to their students.





2025-2026 FLUID POWER CLUBS

Our Fluid Power Club program provides funding to facilitate fluid power clubs on Power Partner and other university campuses. These clubs engage undergraduate students in fluid power technology and activities, and provide platforms for industry mentoring by NFPA members. The following schools were awarded Fluid Power Club awards this year:

- **Cleveland State University** - Cleveland, Ohio
- **Iowa State University** - Ames, Iowa
- **Kennesaw State University** - Kennesaw, Georgia
- **Milwaukee School of Engineering** - Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- **Murray State University** - Murray, Kentucky
- **North Carolina A&T University** - Greensboro, North Carolina
- **Northern Illinois University** - Dekalb, Illinois
- **Oakland University** - Rochester Hills, Michigan
- **Pennsylvania State University** - State College, Pennsylvania
- **Purdue University Northwest** - Hammond, Indiana
- **South Dakota State University** - Brookings, South Dakota
- **State University of New York Polytechnic Institute** - Utica, New York
- **Tennessee State University** - Nashville, Tennessee
- **University of Alabama at Birmingham** - Birmingham, Alabama
- **University of Cincinnati** - Cincinnati, Ohio
- **University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign** - Urbana, Illinois
- **University of Wisconsin at Madison** - Madison, Wisconsin
- **Western Michigan University** - Kalamazoo, Michigan

2025-26 TOM WANKE LEGACY CLUB AWARDS

Tom Wanke was a monumental figure in fluid power, active for more than 50 years and influencing generations of fluid power engineers through his work at the Milwaukee School of Engineering, its Fluid Power Institute, and with the National Fluid Power Association. In his honor, the Tom Wanke Legacy Fund awarded a Fluid Power Club award to:

- **Purdue University;** West Lafayette, Indiana



NFPA Fluid Power Vehicle Challenge

FLUID POWER VEHICLE CHALLENGE

1,200+ Undergraduate Engineers Designing And Building Fluid Power Systems

The Fluid Power Vehicle Challenge is a unique design/build competition for undergraduate engineering students, where they are challenged to design and build a fluid-powered vehicle – a bicycle that relies on a fluid power circuit for its propulsion, with their legs pedaling to serve as the prime mover in that system.

2025-26 was this program's tenth year under NFPA's management. In its history, we have engaged and affected the career trajectory of more than 1,200 undergraduate students. This year, we had the following 32 universities participating at 3 event sites:

- **Arizona State University** - Tempe, Arizona
- **Bucknell University** - Lewisburg, Pennsylvania
- **California Polytechnic State University** - San Luis Obispo, California
- **Cleveland State University** - Cleveland, Ohio
- **Colorado School of Mines** - Golden, Colorado
- **Drexel University** - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- **FAMU-FSU College of Engineering** - Tallahassee, Florida
- **Iowa State University** - Ames, Iowa
- **Kennesaw State University** - Kennesaw, Georgia
- **Loyola Marymount University** - Los Angeles
- **Michigan Technological University** - Houghton, Michigan
- **Milwaukee School of Engineering** - Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- **Minnesota State University Mankato** - Mankato, Minnesota
- **Murray State University** - Murray, Kentucky
- **North Carolina A&T University** - Greensboro, North Carolina
- **Northern Illinois University** - Dekalb, Illinois
- **Oakland University** - Rochester Hills, Michigan
- **Pennsylvania State University** - State College, Pennsylvania
- **Purdue University** - West Lafayette, Indiana
- **Purdue University Northwest** - Hammond, Indiana
- **South Dakota State University** - Brookings, South Dakota
- **State University of New York Polytechnic Institute** - Utica, New York
- **Tennessee State University** - Nashville, Tennessee
- **Texas A&M University** - College Station, Texas
- **University of Alabama at Birmingham** - Birmingham, Alabama
- **University of California-Irvine** - Irvine, California
- **University of Cincinnati** - Cincinnati, Ohio
- **University of Houston** - Houston, Texas
- **University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign** - Urbana, Illinois
- **University of Louisiana at Lafayette** - Lafayette, Louisiana
- **University of Utah** - Salt Lake City, Utah
- **Western Michigan University** - Kalamazoo, Michigan

VEHICLES

Our Vehicle Challenge brings hands-on fluid power education to university engineers. And for many of these students, the Challenge is their first real exposure to fluid power systems and components. Year-in and year-out, the Vehicle Challenge succeeds in achieving its key objectives:

- Stimulate education in practical hydraulics, pneumatics, and sustainable energy devices for motion control.
- Provide students with experience in real world engineering under a strict timeline of designing, simulating, ordering, building, testing and demonstrating their designs.
- Stimulate innovative thinking for designing and testing potential new technologies or concepts integrated into a vehicle platform.
- Provide an industry recruitment opportunity for high potential engineering seniors by engaging directly with practitioners in the field.








The program has an impressive track record of connecting those students with companies in the fluid power industry, who have hired them and helped them start careers in fluid power. Crucial support for this year's program was provided by:

Founding Sponsor
- Parker Hannifin

Program Sponsors
- Applied Fluid Power
- IFP Motion Solutions
- SunSource

Product Suppliers
- Danfoss Power Solutions
- Famic Technologies
- Helios Technologies
- HYDAC
- Source Fluid Power

Event Hosts
- IFP Motion Solutions
- IMI
- Sun Hydraulics

Mentors/Judges
- Applied Fluid Power
- Barksdale Control Products
- Bosch Rexroth
- Bucher Hydraulics
- Fluid System Components
- GCC/Employee Owned Holdings
- GPM Controls
- HYDAC
- Hydra-Power Systems
- Husco
- Hydraquip
- IFP Motion Solutions
- IMI
- JARP Industries
- Kraft Mobile Systems
- Mosey's Production Machinists
- Motion Industries
- Nachi America
- National Tube Supply
- Nott Company
- Power Systems Florida
- QCC - Quality Control Corp
- ROSS Controls
- Sun Hydraulics
- SunSource
- Walvoil Fluid Power
- Young Powertech




The Transformers


HUSCO
AUTOMOTIVE
· Ford Focus
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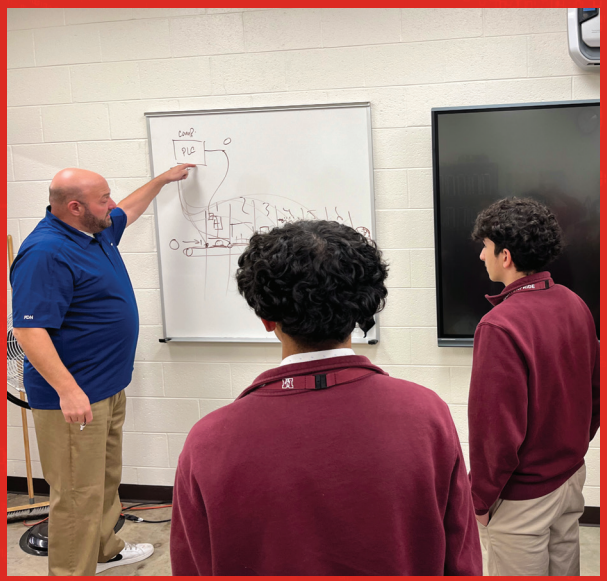
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