

For Immediate Release
June 21, 2010

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ABOUT MTEC SMARTZONE

The mission of MTEC SmartZone is to provide technology-based facilities, resources and programs to high-growth entrepreneurs and companies that increase employment, income, wealth and recognition in the U.P. communities where we serve. Our vision is having integrated economic development of the region that includes a vibrant technology sector, driving Michigan's technological leadership and economic growth with sustainable opportunities for companies and their employees to prosper. More information is available at www.mtecsz.com

ABOUT THE MEDC

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) is the State of Michigan's one-stop resource for businesses seeking to grow in Michigan. Whether it's an expansion, a relocation, or even a concern with another agency of state government, the MEDC can help. From site location assistance to job training grants, from help with permits to tax abatements, we're the state's economic development corporation. More information is available at www.themedc.org.

SmartZone is a service mark of Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

MTEC SmartZone links Fortune-100 Companies with Student Engineering Talent at Michigan Tech.

Fortune-100 companies, like General Electric (GE) and Ford Motor Company, have discovered the many benefits of using Michigan Tech student talent to get work done. Both companies have opened offices in the MTEC SmartZone and are realizing cost-saving growth and high-quality project outsourcing.

GE is a world leader in commercial and military aviation. The United States Defense Department depends on them to develop everything from aviation combat technology to transport vehicles. MTEC SmartZone links GE Aviation with student engineering talent at Michigan Tech. They have access to the freshest and most innovative minds of tomorrow's engineering landscape. The connectivity to Michigan Tech students has made an impact in the development of key aviation products.

This Fortune-100 formula also has many advantages for students. Since the Houghton office first opened 108 student jobs have been created. GE Aviation has eleven full-time employees including Michigan Tech alumni and Site Manager, Jason Mack. Jason explains, "The SmartZone has provided us with a feeder system for the rest of the country. We get to pick the best of the bunch and we can then place them elsewhere in our business, throughout the country." Twenty-nine Michigan Tech graduates are now working for GE in other parts of the world.

"Michigan Tech students bring aptitude towards engineering, the desire to learn and the ability to perform difficult tasks," said Jason. "We are able to build upon their fundamental engineering knowledge they are gathering at Michigan Tech and further develop their skill set to actively participate on projects that focus on real-life aviation-industry applications."

It's a winning connection. GE Aviation is able to cost effectively keep some entry-level engineering projects in the United States without compromising quality. Students gain invaluable experience in their field and the local technology-sector is energized by the addition of the global company.

Ford Motor Company is a leader in the global automotive industry. Operating on six continents, Ford seeks talent in all corners of the globe. Their Houghton



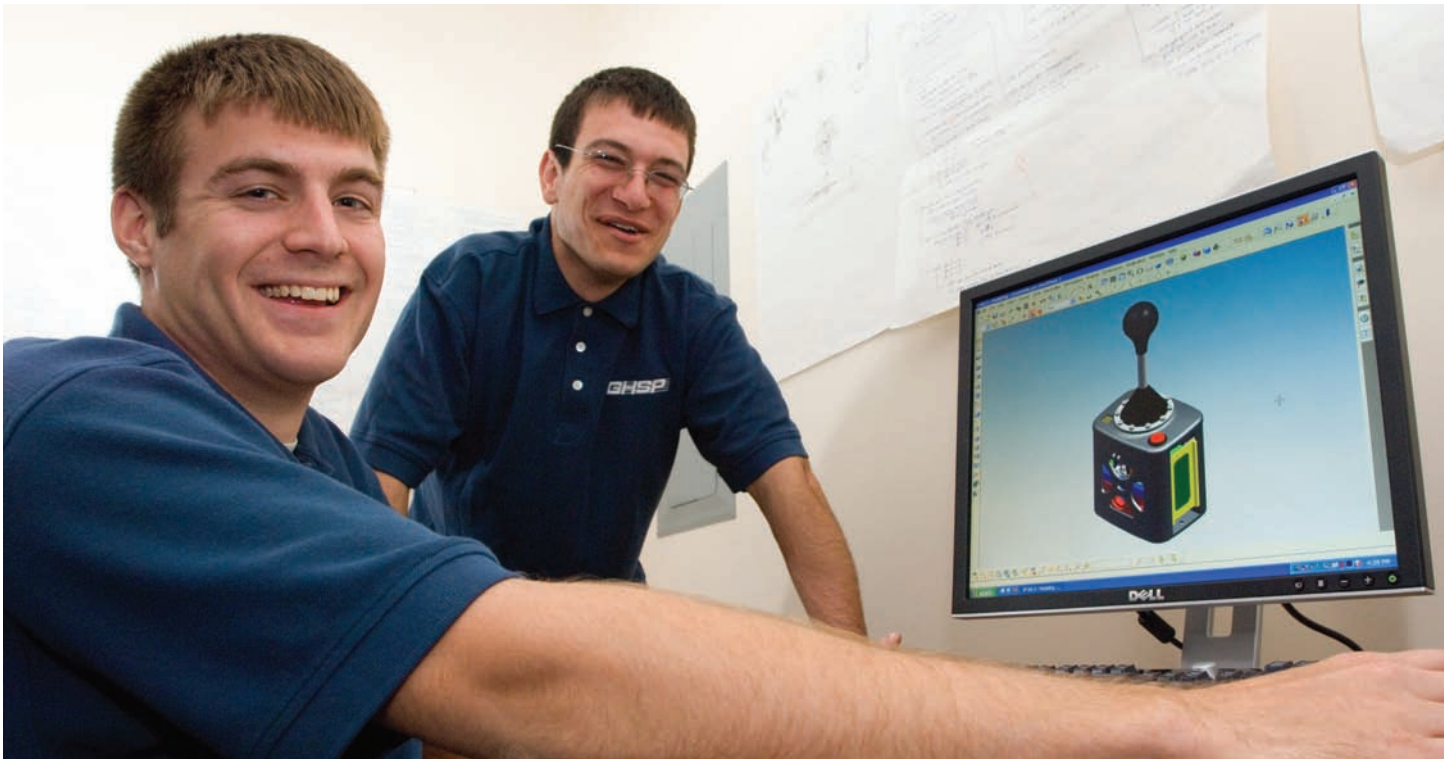
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location has employed fifty-seven Michigan Tech students. Of fourteen graduated student employees two have continued working with Ford Motor Company.

Russ Louks, Application Technology Supervisor at Ford Motor Company is working with Michigan Tech students at the newly renovated MTEC SmartZone Lakeshore Center. "The connection between Ford, Michigan Tech and MTEC SmartZone make up the three legs of the stool. [Ford] has the work, Michigan Tech has the talent, and MTEC SmartZone provides the opportunity and space to run the business."

Michigan Tech students working for Ford Motor Company are assisting in continual developments for Ford's internal information systems. The technical systems increase Ford's efficiency of communication, integration and management of technology and data.

MTEC SmartZone is providing secure, high-tech spaces that can support technology-based businesses of any size. Michigan Technological University continues to guide students along academic paths of vitally important skills. With these assets, many companies are benefiting from the student talent at Michigan Tech.



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