

Media Contact: Jordan Reese at 215-573-6604 or jreese@pobox.upenn.edu

Penn Engineering To Receive Multi-Million Dollar Design Technology Package from PACE Consortium

Nov. 14, 2007

PHILADELPHIA – The School of Engineering and Applied Science at Penn will receive an in kind hardware and software contribution totaling approximately \$70 million in commercial value from PACE, Partners for the Advancement of Collaborative Engineering Education, a consortium comprised of General Motors, EDS, Hewlett Packard, Siemens PLM Software, Sun Microsystems and academic partners chosen for their focus on engineering.

Penn's Department of Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics will receive comprehensive modeling and simulation tools available to PACE companies, which will be used to support a departmental campaign to intensify the design content in the engineering curriculum and to help launch a new integrated product design program. Projects will include research into the design of more efficient factories, hybrid vehicles and artificial heart valves.

PACE is a joint philanthropic initiative begun in 1999 to support academic institutions worldwide by contributing computer-based engineering tools to prepare designers, engineers, and analysts with the skills to compete in the future. Universities are chosen for their interest in collaborative product development, strength of their engineering and design programs, and interest in the automotive industry.

"The mechanical engineering curriculum at Penn combines rigor in engineering analysis with creativity in engineering design and training in

synthesis and integration,” said Vijay Kumar, chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics in the School of Engineering and Applied Science at Penn. “The PACE laboratory will infuse state-of-the-art computer-aided design, modeling and analysis tools into the curriculum, making it easier for students at all levels to incorporate complex engineering models into the design process.”

PACE software includes NX®, Teamcenter® and Tecnomatix®; MSC Adams and MD Nastran; Altair HyperWorks; FLUENT/GAMBIT. The applications provide support for concept development, product engineering, simulation, supply chain management and digital collaboration among research peers.

The PACE consortium now includes 43 strategically selected universities around the world including MIT, Virginia Tech, the University of Michigan, and Georgia Tech. The PACE Partnership also extends to institutions in Australia, Canada, China, Germany, Mexico, India, South America, South Korea and Sweden.

For additional PACE contributors and more information on the PACE collaboration, visit www.pacepartners.org. For more information on Penn and its engineering efforts, visit <http://www.me.upenn.edu/~pacelab>.

###

Quote Page

Quote from PACE member James Wiemels, Vice President, Global Manufacturing Engineering, General Motors Corporation:

"The PACE program provides GM projects to students early in their academic careers and enables our recruiting teams to identify talent early and to nurture it accordingly with internships and other opportunities." said James Wiemels, Vice President, Global Manufacturing Engineering, General Motors Corporation.

"We recognize the University of Penn's strong emphasis on collaboration in research between its Engineering departments and across the boundaries to it's other colleges. Digital tools and information technology – exactly like that used in the PACE program – are the backbone of GM's global enterprise. GM has established virtual-reality rooms for global product collaboration which have become a company norm for our designers and engineers in different regions to collaborate on new products, and to tap into a knowledge database of best practices from past and current programs. GM has operations in 35 countries and we do business in 200."

Quote from PACE member Ed Arlin, GM

"Today's leading manufacturing and technology companies compete on the basis of time to market, product cost, quality and innovation," said Ed Arlin, senior vice president, General Motors for Siemens PLM Software. "It's quite clear that today's best students in top programs, like the one at Penn, must have the opportunity to gain experience with technology that supports these objectives."

Quote from PACE member Mendi Paschal, Siemens PLM Software

Quote from PACE member _____, Sun Microsystems