



CONNECTIONS

Looking for a way to stay innovative and ahead of the game by engaging Ontario's brightest minds?

Tap into fresh ideas and new perspectives with Ontario Centres of Excellence's Connections program. Connections has successfully linked final-year students from universities and colleges across Ontario with industry partners for almost twenty years.



HOW DO STUDENTS BENEFIT?

Connections helps students bring 'real-world' industrial relevance to their final-year project courses. Student teams are given a problem to solve and are responsible for developing the project plan and solution with input and guidance from academic and industry experts.

WHAT IS CONNECTIONS?

Connections is an Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) funded collaborative program built into the existing curriculum of final-year programs within Ontario colleges and universities. It connects students with industry partners to address a technology problem defined by the participating company. Connections offers students the opportunity to apply technical skills to real-world problems, helping them grow as innovators.

Over the years, Connections has touched thousands of students and hundreds of companies. Last year alone, Connections engaged 1,500 students from 20 universities and colleges across Ontario in over 310 industry projects.

This academic year, in addition to the regular program, the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) is generously supporting a pilot project with OCE's Connections program encouraging companies to consider energy conservation related projects. For more information, please visit www.oce-ontario.org/connections.



HOW DOES THE FUNDING WORK?

OCE invests up to \$3,500 per team to support project activities such as prototype development, travel or product testing. Industry partners contribute an amount in cash and in-kind that matches or exceeds that of OCE.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

- ▶ Fresh perspective, new skills and new ideas
- ▶ Access to motivated and skilled young talent
- ▶ Affordable short-term skilled labour
- ▶ Company and brand exposure

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION PROCESS

To learn more about Connections visit www.oce-ontario.org/connections or contact:

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Note: Expressions of interest for 2009-2010 academic year due **September 21, 2009**. Full proposals by **October 30, 2009**.

Each year, Ontario companies benefit from OCE's Connections program. Listed below are a sample of industry partners that participated in Connections over the past year.

GREATER TORONTO AREA

Apple (Toronto)
 Bantrel (Toronto)
 Boom Recording Studio Inc. (Toronto)
 Canadian Computer Technologies Inc. (Toronto)
 Dillon Consulting (Toronto)
 Kangaroo Design & Innovation (Toronto)
 KJ Laser Micromachining (Toronto)
 Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment Ltd. (Toronto)
 Ontario Power Generation (Toronto)
 Pure Fun Confections Inc. (Toronto)
 Alphora Research Inc. (Mississauga)
 Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (Mississauga)
 Contract Pharmaceuticals (Mississauga)
 Dairy Farmers of Ontario (Mississauga)
 Green Rider (Mississauga)
 Dynaplas Ltd. (Scarborough)
 FTG Corporation (Scarborough)
 Messier-Dowty (Ajax)
 Autoliv Electronics Canada (Markham)
 The International Group Inc. (Agincourt)
 Creations Services Inc. (Brampton)
 DSE Automotive Ltd. (Brampton)
 Cesaroni Technology Incorporated (Gormley)
 Delta M Incorporated (Milton)
 Meritor Suspension Systems Company (Milton)
 BBbarfly (Thornhill)
 MMM Group Limited (Thornhill)
 Baird & Associates (Oakville)
 Viewpoint Mobility (Oakville)
 Husky Injection Molding Systems Ltd. (Bolton)
 Beatty & Associates Ltd. (Bolton)

SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO

Armatec Survivability Corp. (London)
 Checkfluid Inc. (London)
 Fit for Life (London)
 Terra International (Canada) Inc. (Courtright)
 Convergent Telecom (St. Catharines)
 Niagara Prosthetics & Orthotics (St. Catharines)
 Grape Growers of Ontario (Vineland Station)
 Tigchelaar Berry Farms Inc. (Vineland)
 Habitat for Humanity Canada (Waterloo)
 Sprung-brett RDI (Waterloo)
 Ridsdale Metal Products Inc. (Cambridge)
 Ori Machine (Guelph)
 Soy 20/20 (Guelph)
 Felton Brushes Limited (Hamilton)
 Karma Candy Inc. (Hamilton)
 U. S. Steel Canada (Hamilton)
 Patriot Forge Co. (Brantford)
 Adventec Manufacturing Inc. (Ancaster)
 Opus Automation Inc. (Ancaster)
 Oil Lift Systems Inc. (Ayr)
 PenSafe (Stoney Creek)
 Cheme Engineering Inc. (Campbellville)
 Ag-Tronic Control Systems Inc. (Leamington)

EASTERN & NORTHERN ONTARIO

Lafarge Canada Inc. (Bath)
 Municipality of Clarington (Bowmanville)
 Bracebridge Generation (Bracebridge)
 The Thompson Rosemount Group Inc. (Cornwall)
 EnerWorks Inc. (Dorchester)
 ASK Science Products Inc. (Kingston)
 City of Kingston (Kingston)
 J. L. Richards & Associates Ltd. (Kingston)
 McCormick Rankin Corporation (Kingston)
 PnuVax Inc. (Kingston)
 Advanced Engine Technology Ltd. (Ottawa)
 Ambico Limited (Ottawa)
 Defence Research & Development Canada (Ottawa)
 Halsall Associates Ltd. (Ottawa)

Heliocentric Technologies Inc. (Ottawa)
 HousAll Systems Corporation (Ottawa)
 Magellan Aerospace Limited/Bristol (Ottawa)
 Sander Geophysics (Ottawa)
 The Ottawa Hospital Rehabilitation Centre / Le Centre de réadaptation de l'Hôpital d'Ottawa (Ottawa)
 White Box Robotics (Ottawa)
 W.R. Davis Engineering Limited (Ottawa)
 Maple Leaf Environmental Equipment Ltd. (Brockville)
 Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (Glenburnie)
 AeroVations Inc. (Gloucester)
 Hendrick Seeds (Inkerman)
 EcoVue Consulting Services Inc. (Lakefield)
 Open Road Motorsports (Mountain)
 E.T.M. Industries Inc. (Renfrew)
 SAE Inc. (Barrie)
 SIRCH Community Services and Consulting (Haliburton)
 Ruralwave High Speed Internet (Sutherland)
 H.R. Doornekamp Construction Ltd. (Odessa)
 Green Zone Farm (Chelmsford)
 Quickmill Inc. (Peterborough)
 Cameco Corporation (Port Hope)

For a list of eligible universities and colleges in Ontario, please visit www.oce-ontario.org/connections



“HousAll has been very pleased with our participation in the Connections program at OCE and will continue to participate as long as the program runs. We hired two of the four team members we worked with last year and we may very well hire members from this year's team.”

Miles Kennedy *Chairman,
 Founder and Chief Technical Officer*
 HousAll Systems Corporation (Ottawa)

“These team based technology and technology oriented projects are real winners in the minds and hearts of employers and students. The Connections programs provide excellent training for students and whether they did a project for the hiring company or not, is less important to the companies than the fact that they had the experience.”

David Mody
Department Of Chemical Engineering
 Queen's University (Kingston)

“The Connections program gave us an opportunity to work on a project that was different from an academic thesis. It was a real industrial problem with real financial goals. The experience was very good training for the type of work we'll be doing in the future.”

Steven Zhao *Student*
 University of Toronto
 First place Connections Student
 Competition Winner, 2008/09

ABOUT OCE

Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) Inc. drives the commercialization of cutting-edge research across key market sectors to build the economy of tomorrow and secure Ontario's global competitiveness. In doing this, OCE fosters the training and development of the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs and is a key partner with Ontario's industry, universities, colleges, research hospitals, investors and governments. OCE's Centres work in communications and information technology, earth and environmental technologies, energy, materials and manufacturing and photonics. OCE is funded by the government of Ontario and is a key partner in delivering Ontario's Innovation Agenda. OCE through its Centre for Commercialization of Research (CCR), an initiative supported by the federal government, also acts as catalyst which allows innovative businesses to grow and achieve sustainable, commercial success and global competitiveness.



The Ontario Centres of Excellence program is made possible through the financial support of the province of Ontario.