



**OMRON**  
FOUNDATION, INC  
**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Omron Foundation, Inc. Supports Illinois FIRST® and STEM Education With \$25,000 Donation**

HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL (July 17, 2015)—OMRON Foundation, Inc. announced a donation of \$25,000 to Illinois FIRST to promote hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education for young people. *FIRST* (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) was founded in 1989 by inventor Dean Kamen to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology. More than 300,000 youth and more than 120,000 Mentors, Coaches, and Volunteers from over 60 countries participated in the 2013-2014 *FIRST* season.

“Omron strongly supports Illinois *FIRST*'s mission -- inspiring and engaging young people to discover STEM in a way that is fun and inclusive,” said Nigel Blakeway, Omron Foundation's CEO. “At Omron, we understand firsthand how crucial it is to innovation to foster new ideas and perspectives. In short, when STEM education flourishes, we all benefit.”

Dan Green, the Executive Director for Illinois *FIRST* Robotics says: “Illinois *FIRST* Robotics is excited to have Omron as a sponsor for our STEM programs covering students from the ages of 6 - 18. This great program inspires kids to be interested in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math by facilitating various exciting age appropriate robotics competitions. Omron's involvement in this program, both financially and with employee volunteers, is helping our youth to become the innovators and leaders of tomorrow.”

*FIRST* designs accessible, innovative programs that motivate young people to pursue education and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math, while gaining self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills. These are the kinds of efforts that Omron's donation will support within the state of Illinois. More information about Illinois *FIRST* Robotics can be found at [www.ilfirst.org](http://www.ilfirst.org).

### **About OMRON Foundation, Inc.**

Founded in 1989, OMRON Foundation, Inc. (OFI) coordinates the charitable efforts of all OMRON offices in the US and Canada to achieve the greatest positive social impact. The Foundation is funded by OMRON's subsidiaries in North America, which contribute a portion of sales revenue to the Foundation. The Foundation divides its charitable resources among organizations benefiting education, people with disabilities, cultural programs, health, and other social concerns including disaster relief. For further information, contact: Kevin Bulatek, Corporate Social Responsibility Manager at Omron Foundation, Inc., 2895 Greenspoint Parkway, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169 U.S.A. Tel.: 1-224-520-7650 Fax: 1-224-520-7680.

### **About OMRON**

Headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, OMRON Corporation is a global leader in electronics manufacturing. Established in 1933 and headed by President & CEO Yoshihito Yamada, OMRON has nearly 36,000 employees around the world working to provide products and services to customers in a variety of fields, including industrial automation, safety products, electronic and mechanical components, automotive electronic components, oilfield and marine drive and control systems, social systems (ticket gate machines and traffic control) and healthcare. For more information, visit the OMRON website at [www.omron.com](http://www.omron.com).