



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

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## **Omron Foundation, Inc. donates \$15,000 to Thomas Fire Fund to assist recovery efforts in Southern California's Ventura County**

HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL (December 14, 2017)—OMRON Foundation, Inc. is making a contribution of \$15,000 to the Thomas Fire Fund—a strategic partnership between the United Way of Ventura County, the American Red Cross of Ventura County, and the Ventura County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services—to help with the community's recovery efforts.

Ignited early in the evening of December 4<sup>th</sup>, the Thomas Fire is among a reported 20 brush fires that broke out across Southern California early in the month, driven by the region's infamous dry conditions and seasonal Santa Ana winds. The majority of those fires were handled within days and are now 85 to 100% contained.

However, the Thomas blaze quickly spread out of control. On December 5<sup>th</sup>, California Governor Jerry Brown declared a state of emergency in the area. As of this morning, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL Fire) reported that Thomas has charred 237,500 acres, destroyed 904 structures, and damaged 196 others. It is currently 25% contained.

"It has been a challenging fall for California, with the [Northern California wildfires in October](#) and these most recent ones in Southern California—particularly the Ventura County area. With this contribution, we are determined to do what we can to assist the recovery effort and help restore hope in this devastated area," said Nigel Blakeway, Omron Foundation President and CEO of Omron Management Center of America, Inc.

The United Way of Ventura County established the Thomas Fire Fund and is working with Red Cross of Ventura County and Ventura County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services to ensure the most effective use of the funds. The United Way has declared that 100% of donations go to those affected by the wildfires. Donations to the Thomas Fire Fund can be made [online](#), by phone (805) 485-6288, or by mailing a check to the United Way at 702 County Square Drive, Suite 100, Ventura CA 93003.

As always, Omron employees are encouraged to support the relief efforts by making individual donations to the Thomas Fire Fund, which are matched by the Omron Foundation.

### About OMRON Foundation, Inc.

Founded in 1989, OMRON Foundation, Inc. (OFI) coordinates the charitable efforts of OMRON offices in the US 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, Omron Foundation Director 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 38,000 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, robotics, code readers, 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).

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