

## MECOP, Inc. is Positioned for a Bright Future as Internship Program Grows

501(c)(3) Non-Profit status granted to Northwest internship program

Corvallis, Ore. – April 28, 2014 – MECOP, Inc. is proud to announce that it has been awarded their 501(c)(3) non-profit status from the United States Internal Revenue Service. "This accomplishment is a very important corner stone of the foundation of MECOP as this status recognizes MECOP as a legal non-profit entity and opens the door to building the future of the organization" said John Vandecoevering, one of the founding Directors of MECOP and active Finance Committee member.

"Obtaining our 501(c)(3) status will allow us to realize our Capital Campaign goal of building a facility achievable through Foundation Grants. Pursuing these grants will continue growth for MECOP and meet the future needs of our industry partners, students and Universities in the Northwest," stated Gary Petersen, MECOP, Inc., Executive Director.

For the past 35 years, MECOP and the CECOP office were directly tied to Oregon State University. In 2012, MECOP incorporated and in obtaining the 501(c)(3) status, MECOP has now gained a new level of autonomy and independence that will allow this excellent engineering internship program to formulate growth plans and sources of funding to ensure further success for many years to come.

## **About MECOP Inc.**

MECOP, Inc. encompasses both the Multiple Engineering Cooperative Program (MECOP) and the Civil Engineering Cooperative Program (CECOP). Founded in 1978, MECOP has built a program that focuses on bridging classroom learning to industry experience and provides qualified students paid internships. These internships are possible by the over 100 participating member companies who in 2014 will place over 500 students into the workplace as interns. This unique program is available to students from Oregon State University, Oregon Tech, Portland State University and University of Portland and spans 19 academic disciplines.

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