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9.06.2026

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Stella Mary's College of Engineering

Aruthenganvilai

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

Stella Mary's College of Engineering, Aruthenganvilai

(An Autonomous Institution)

Azhikal, Aruthenganvilai

Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu – 629 157

And

Wonjin Autoparts India Pvt. Ltd.

Plot No.1 A1 k, CMDA Industrial Park Complex

Maraimalai Nagar – 603209, Tamil Nadu, India

60 614338

V. R. S.

V. R. S.

சுட்டி வைக்கப்பட்ட நாள்: 20-6-2024
பிரதீபா கிருஷ்ணன்



1. Preamble

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the "MoU") is entered into on this 11th day of June 2026, by and between:

1.1. Stella Mary's College of Engineering (hereinafter referred to as "SMCE" or "the College"), located in Azhikal, Aruthenganvilai, Kanyakumari District, is a distinguished autonomous institution established in 2012 by Dr. Nazerath Charles, entrepreneur and founder of the Nova Educational Trust. Accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) with an 'A' Grade and holding National Board of Accreditation (NBA) status for its BE programs in Computer Science and Engineering and Mechanical Engineering, SMCE is recognized as a premier engineering college in the region. The college is dedicated to delivering advanced engineering knowledge while emphasizing character development through strong moral and ethical values. Featuring modern academic infrastructure, state-of-the-art laboratories, and facilities designed to foster a conducive learning environment, SMCE prepares its graduates to meet the evolving challenges of the engineering profession and contribute meaningfully to society.

1.2. Wonjin Autoparts India Pvt. Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as "Wonjin" or "the Company") is a leading manufacturer of automotive components and a wholly owned subsidiary of the Wonjin Group, headquartered in South Korea. The Company operates a state of the art manufacturing facility at the CMDA Industrial Park Complex in Maraimalai Nagar, Tamil Nadu, specializing in precision engineered parts including suspension systems, steering components, and other critical automotive assemblies. Renowned for its advanced manufacturing capabilities, stringent quality standards, and commitment to innovation, Wonjin serves as a key supplier to major Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) in the

Indian and global automotive markets. The Company is also committed to fostering technical education and skill development in the communities where it operates.

Whereas, both SMCE and Wonjin (hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Parties" and individually as "a Party") recognize the mutual benefits of a structured collaboration that bridges academia and industry;

Whereas, the Parties acknowledge the need to enhance the quality of technical education by integrating contemporary industry practices, fostering innovation, and providing practical exposure to students and faculty;

Whereas, the Parties desire to establish a formal framework for cooperation in education, research, training, and placement to create a sustainable industry-academia partnership;

Now, therefore, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants contained herein, the Parties hereby agree to collaborate under the following terms and conditions.

2. Objectives

The primary objectives of this MoU are to establish a long-term, mutually beneficial relationship aimed at:

2.1. Academic Industry Integration: Foster strong collaboration between SMCE and Wonjin in areas of mutual interest, including but not limited to Mechanical Engineering and Industrial Safety.

2.2. Student Development: Provide structured opportunities for students of SMCE to gain hands on industry experience through internships, industrial training, live

projects, and final year capstone projects aligned with real-world engineering challenges.

2.3. Faculty Enrichment: Enable faculty members to enhance their technical knowledge and pedagogical skills through industry visits, collaborative research, and exposure to contemporary manufacturing practices and technologies.

2.4. Research & Innovation: Encourage joint research and development initiatives, applied research projects, technology transfer, and consultancy assignments that address industrial problems and contribute to innovation in the automotive component sector.

2.5. Curriculum Modernization: Facilitate regular dialogue between academicians and industry experts to review and refine the curriculum, ensuring it remains relevant to current industry requirements and emerging technological trends.

2.6. Skill Development & Training: Jointly organize and conduct skill development programs, workshops, certification courses, and continuing education programs for students, faculty, and industry personnel.

2.7. Knowledge Sharing & Events: Promote the exchange of non confidential technical knowledge, publications, and best practices through seminars, guest lectures, technical symposia, and industrial visits.

2.8. Placement & Career Opportunities: Create a streamlined process for campus recruitment and career opportunities for eligible students of SMCE at Wonjin, thereby enhancing employability.

2.9. Institutional Visibility: Enhance the reputation of both institutions through collaborative events, joint publications, and recognition of the partnership in academic and industrial forums.

3. Scope of Collaboration

The Parties agree to collaborate in the following areas, with specific activities to be planned and implemented through mutual consultation and separate agreements where necessary:

3.1. Student Internships & Projects

3.1.1. Wonjin may offer internship opportunities of varying durations (e.g., summer internships, semester long internships) for undergraduate and postgraduate students of SMCE.

3.1.2. Final year B.E. / M.E. students may be permitted to undertake their major projects at Wonjin's facilities, under joint supervision of a faculty member and a nominated industry mentor.

3.1.3. The selection process, duration, stipend (if any), and specific deliverables shall be mutually agreed upon in advance for each cohort.

3.2. Industrial Training & Visits

3.2.1. SMCE may organize industrial visits for students to Wonjin's manufacturing facilities to observe real-time processes, quality control systems, and advanced manufacturing technologies.

3.2.2. Wonjin will facilitate such visits subject to production schedules and safety protocols, and may designate personnel to guide and brief the visiting groups.

3.3. Guest Lectures & Technical Workshops

3.3.1. Experts from Wonjin will be invited to deliver guest lectures, conduct technical workshops, and participate in seminars at SMCE on topics of mutual interest such as precision manufacturing, lean manufacturing, Six Sigma, Industry 4.0, and automotive quality systems.

3.3.2. SMCE faculty may be invited to deliver specialized academic sessions at Wonjin as part of employee upskilling initiatives.

3.4. Research & Development

3.4.1. The Parties may jointly identify and undertake applied research projects, product development, process optimization studies, and testing assignments.

3.4.2. Where appropriate, research outcomes may be published in technical journals or presented at conferences, subject to confidentiality and IP agreements.

3.4.3. Separate research collaboration agreements will define the scope, resources, IP ownership, and funding for each project.

3.5. Curriculum Development & Industry Advisory

3.5.1. Wonjin representatives may be nominated to serve on the Industry Advisory Board or Board of Studies of the Mechanical Engineering Department at SMCE.

3.5.2. The Parties will hold periodic curriculum review meetings to align academic content with evolving industry needs.

3.6. Faculty Development & Exchange

3.6.1. SMCE faculty may be offered opportunities for industrial sabbaticals, short-term training, and collaborative research at Wonjin.

3.6.2. Wonjin engineers may be invited to serve as adjunct faculty or guest faculty for specialized courses.

3.7. Placement Activities

3.7.1. Wonjin will consider SMCE students for recruitment through the campus placement process, subject to the Company's manpower requirements and eligibility criteria.

3.7.2. Pre-placement talks, aptitude tests, interviews, and other recruitment activities shall be coordinated by the SMCE Training & Placement Cell.

3.8. Signing Ceremony & Inaugural Campus Activities

- To mark the formal commencement of this partnership, the Parties shall jointly organize a signing ceremony at the Wonjin facility in Maraimalai Nagar. The inaugural activities shall include:
 - A formal signing ceremony with representatives from both Parties.
 - A meet-and-greet session between Wonjin representatives and the Department of Mechanical Engineering from SMCE.
 - A facility tour showcasing workshops and other infrastructure.

3.9. Other Collaborative Activities

The Parties may also collaborate in organizing hackathons, design competitions, sponsored projects, continuing education programs, and social outreach initiatives that align with their shared interests.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

4.1. Responsibilities of SMCE

- a) **Nodal Coordination:** Appoint a senior faculty member as the Nodal Officer to serve as the primary point of contact for all activities under this MoU and to ensure seamless coordination with Wonjin.
- b) **Student Nomination:** Identify, screen, and recommend eligible and motivated students for internships, projects, and placement opportunities, ensuring they meet the academic and conduct requirements specified by Wonjin.
- c) **Faculty Participation:** Facilitate the participation of interested faculty members in collaborative research, training, and curriculum development activities.
- d) **Infrastructure Support:** Provide necessary academic and administrative infrastructure such as seminar halls, laboratory space (where required), audio-visual equipment, and other facilities for joint programs, as mutually agreed.
- e) **Logistical Arrangements:** Coordinate and host events such as guest lectures, workshops, including arrangements for travel, hospitality, and other logistical support for Wonjin representatives.

f) **Compliance & Discipline:** Ensure that participating students and faculty adhere to the safety protocols, code of conduct, and confidentiality requirements of Wonjin when visiting or working at the Company's premises.

g) **Documentation & Reporting:** Maintain records of activities undertaken under this MoU and provide periodic progress reports to Wonjin as mutually agreed.

4.2. Responsibilities of Wonjin Autoparts India Pvt. Ltd.

a) **Nodal Coordination:** Appoint a designated representative as the Nodal Officer to coordinate with SMCE for all collaborative activities and to ensure alignment with the Company's policies and resources.

b) **Internship & Project Opportunities:** Provide meaningful opportunities for student internships, training, and projects, subject to the Company's operational capacity and business requirements. Wonjin will provide necessary supervision and mentoring to assigned students.

c) **Expert Participation:** Facilitate the participation of its technical experts and senior management in guest lectures, workshops, curriculum review sessions, and other academic events as mutually planned.

d) **Facility Access:** Where appropriate and subject to safety and confidentiality norms, provide access to its manufacturing and R&D facilities for visits, training, and collaborative projects.

e) **Industry Inputs:** Share relevant non-proprietary information on industry trends, technological advancements, and skill requirements to support curriculum enhancement and academic programs.

f) **Placement Support:** Participate in campus placement activities in accordance with the Company's recruitment schedule and processes, providing timely feedback to SMCE on selection outcomes.

g) **Safety & Compliance:** Ensure that any student or faculty member visiting the Company's premises receives appropriate safety induction and is supervised in compliance with applicable health, safety, and environmental regulations.

5. Financial Arrangements

5.1. **General Principle:** Unless otherwise specified in a separate written agreement for a specific project or program, each Party shall bear its own costs, expenses, and liabilities incurred in fulfilling its responsibilities under this MoU.

5.2. **Internships & Projects:** Any stipend, insurance, or other financial support for students undertaking internships or projects shall be determined on a case-by-case basis and documented in a separate letter or agreement prior to commencement.

5.3. **Joint Programs:** For activities such as workshops, seminars, or research projects that require significant expenditure, the Parties shall mutually agree in writing on the budget and cost-sharing arrangement before the activity is initiated.

5.4. **Sponsored Research:** Any research funded wholly or partly by Wonjin shall be governed by a separate research agreement detailing the scope, deliverables, budget, and IP rights.

6. Intellectual Property & Confidentiality

6.1. **Pre-existing IP:** All intellectual property (IP), including patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets, and know-how, owned or developed by either Party prior to the effective date of this MoU shall remain the sole property of that Party.

6.2. Use of Names & Logos: Neither Party shall use the name, logo, or trademark of the other Party for any commercial, promotional, or publicity purposes without prior written consent, except for factual references to the existence of this MoU.

6.4. Confidential Information:

6.4.1. Each Party may disclose to the other certain non-public, proprietary, or sensitive information ("Confidential Information") for the purpose of fulfilling the objectives of this MoU. Such information may include technical data, business plans, customer lists, manufacturing processes, and unpublished research.

6.4.2. The receiving Party shall maintain the confidentiality of such information using the same degree of care it uses for its own confidential information, but in no event less than reasonable care.

6.4.3. Confidential Information shall not be disclosed to any third party without the prior written consent of the disclosing Party, except as required by law or to the extent necessary to perform obligations under this MoU (e.g., to employees or consultants who are bound by confidentiality obligations).

6.4.4. This confidentiality obligation shall survive the termination of this MoU for a period of **five (5) years** from the date of disclosure or until the information enters the public domain through no fault of the receiving Party, whichever occurs first.

6.5. Publications: Any proposed publication or public presentation of results arising from joint activities shall be reviewed by both Parties at least thirty (30) days prior to submission to ensure that Confidential Information is not inadvertently disclosed and that appropriate credit is given.

7. Term and Termination

7.1. Effective Date & Duration: This MoU shall come into effect from the date of its execution by both Parties and shall remain in force for a period of **Five (5) years**.

7.2. Renewal: This MoU may be renewed for additional periods by mutual written consent of both Parties, preferably with a review of achievements and an updated work plan.

7.3. Termination for Convenience: Either Party may terminate this MoU by giving **thirty (30) days'** written notice to the other Party.

7.4. Termination for Cause: Either Party may terminate this MoU immediately by written notice if the other Party commits a material breach of any provision hereof and fails to remedy such breach within thirty (30) days of receiving written notice thereof.

7.5. Effect of Termination: Termination shall not affect the completion of any ongoing specific projects or obligations that were formally initiated prior to the effective date of termination, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties. The Parties shall cooperate to conclude such ongoing activities in an orderly manner.

7.6. Survival: The provisions of Clauses 5 (Financial Arrangements, for liabilities incurred prior to termination), 6 (Intellectual Property & Confidentiality), 7.5, and 8 shall survive any termination or expiration of this MoU.

8. General Terms

8.1. Nature of Understanding: This MoU is a statement of mutual intent to cooperate and is not intended to create, nor shall it be construed as creating, any legally binding or enforceable obligations, except for the clauses on Intellectual

property & Confidentiality (Clause 6), Financial Arrangements (Clause 5) to the extent of liabilities incurred, and General Terms (Clause 8). Specific binding agreements will be executed separately for individual collaborative projects, programs, or funding arrangements.

8.2. Amendments: Any amendment or modification to this MoU shall be valid only if made in writing and duly signed by authorized representatives of both Parties.

8.3. Force Majeure: Neither Party shall be liable for any failure or delay in performing its obligations under this MoU if such failure or delay is due to circumstances beyond its reasonable control, including but not limited to acts of God, war, civil unrest, fire, flood, pandemic, or government regulations. The affected Party shall promptly notify the other and take reasonable steps to mitigate the impact.

8.4. Dispute Resolution: In the event of any dispute arising out of or in connection with this MoU, the Parties shall first attempt to resolve the dispute amicably through good-faith negotiations between the designated nodal officers. If the dispute is not resolved within thirty (30) days, either Party may escalate the matter to senior management of both organizations for resolution. If the dispute remains unresolved, the matter shall be submitted to arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 (as amended). The arbitration shall be conducted by a sole arbitrator mutually agreed upon by the Parties, or failing agreement, appointed by the President of the Madras High Court. The arbitration proceedings shall be held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, and the language of arbitration shall be English. The award rendered by the arbitrator shall be final and binding on both Parties.

8.5. Governing Law & Jurisdiction: This MoU shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of India. Subject to the arbitration clause above, the

courts in Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any disputes arising out of or in connection with this MoU.

8.6. Notices: All formal communications under this MoU shall be in writing and sent to the designated nodal officers at the addresses mentioned in the preamble, or to such other addresses as may be notified in writing. Notices may be delivered by hand, registered post, or email with acknowledgment of receipt.

8.7. Entire Agreement: This MoU constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties concerning the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior discussions, understandings, or agreements, whether written or oral.

8.8. Non-Exclusivity: This MoU is not exclusive and does not restrict either Party from entering into similar arrangements with other academic or industrial institutions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the authorized representatives of the Parties have executed this Memorandum of Understanding in duplicate, each Party retaining one original copy.


For and on behalf of SMCE

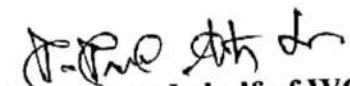
Name:

P. R. SURESH PREMIL KUMAR
PROFESSOR & PRINCIPAL
STELLA MARY'S COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)
ARUTHENGANVILAI, AZHIKAL POST
KANYAKUMARI DISTRICT 629 202

Date:

Signature & Seal:




For and on behalf of WONJIN
AUTOPARTS INDIA PVT. LTD.

Name: P. PAUL ANTONY LEO

Designation: ADMIN OFFICER

Date: 11.06.2026

Signature & Seal:



WITNESSES:

For SMCE

1. Name: Dr. M. CHANDRAPRAKASH

Designation: Professor

Signature: [Signature]
11/06/26

2. Name: Dr. A. SAGEE FRANCIS BRITO

Designation: Associate professor

Signature: [Signature]
11/06/26

For Wonjin Autoparts India Pvt. Ltd.

1. Name: B. RAJASEKARAN

Designation: MANAGER - HR

Signature: [Signature]

2. Name: G. SATHEESH

Designation: HR EXECUTIVE

Signature: [Signature]