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# PRESS RELEASE

## Project Brings Students, Industry & Academia Together

*Boise-based engineering company iO DuPont, Inc. teams up with multiple UI colleges to develop a product for market.*

**Boise, ID, 12.22.11:** Io DuPont, Inc is pleased to announce a recent collaboration with the University of Idaho. The departments of Mechanical Engineering and Biological and Agricultural Engineering have come together to test and report on iO DuPont's latest technology, the Infinity Drive™. This collaboration offers students a year-long opportunity to get involved in a project that incorporates industry issues, such as fundraising and marketing.

"The business aspect of this project is invaluable to me since I would never learn it in school otherwise," Zack Wuthrich, one of the engineering senior design students working on the project, said. "Experiences dealing with intellectual property, investor seeking and good marketing practices are not typically found in an engineering education, so to gain from them now is great for my future objectives."

Most of the core team at iO DuPont are Vandal alumni and they believe this project is a great way to give back to the University. At the beginning of the fall semester, iO DuPont provided a group of engineering senior design students with a project concept and financial support for the Infinity Drive. The team used the university's resources – such as machine shops and technology-enhanced conference rooms – to provide iO DuPont with an enhanced design concept and valuable testing data.

"This project has been unlike any other academic experience I have had," Wuthrich said. "We have been able to define our own objectives and constraints throughout the entire project, giving us the freedom to push ourselves in our own desired directions."

According to iO DuPont's founder and lead engineer, Tony DuPont, the students contribute much more than test data. "These students share our energy and enthusiasm for creation. We love what we do and so do they. Collecting our energy and channeling it into this project is very, very exciting."

When asked about the project's potential for success, Jim Blythe, head of the agriculture division at iO DuPont, said " the Infinity Drive is a unique variable-rate transmission with many useful applications. Right now, the possibilities are endless – from agriculture to automotive."

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

  
Engineered by IODUPONT INC.

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He also said for the Infinity Drive to be successful, a collaborative effort between the engineering and agricultural industry is crucial. "The Infinity Drive is a game changer. There's really nothing like it. With students from both the Engineering and Agriculture disciplines working on this project, we'll have what we need to bring a world-class product to market," Blythe said.

As the fall semester comes to a close, the senior design team is reflecting on their work and planning ahead. "It has been educational and inspiring to work with Tony, and our team in looking forward to prototyping and testing our design in the spring semester," Kara Kleppen, a member of the design team, said.

Mr. DuPont shares the team's enthusiasm for the project's future. "Overall, we want to develop great products to make the world a better place and it's great the University of Idaho is part of the process. We want to grow and provide great jobs for the community," Mr. DuPont said. "The students we're working with today may someday work with us on project after graduation."

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iO DuPont, Inc. develops high-end technology products with applications in the cycling industry and beyond. The company was founded in 2004 by Tony DuPont, the company's lead engineer and managing member, with the company's first product: the synthetic fiber Power Cordz™ the world's lightest, strongest bicycle control cables.

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