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Hanson renews \$150K pledge to University of Illinois rail center

News

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Hanson Professional Services Inc. has pledged \$150,000 to the Rail Transportation and Engineering Center (RailTEC), headquartered within CEE. This gift, to be issued over five years, renews the company's continued commitment to railroad engineering and the University of Illinois.

"Through our continued commitment to RailTEC, we proudly support the center, its research and its students," said Hanson's Chairman and CEO, Sergio "Satch" Pecori, who is an alumnus of UIUC's civil engineering program.



Front row, from left, Hanson Professional Services Inc.'s Mike Mendenhall (BS 02) and Mat Fletcher (BS 94); Ana Barros, CEE head; and Hanson's Chairman and CEO Sergio "Satch" Pecori (BS 73, MS 74) stand with faculty and students of UIUC's Rail Transportation and Engineering Center outside the University's Newmark Civil Engineering Laboratory on Oct. 28 after Hanson pledged \$150,000 to the center.

Hanson, founded by UIUC alumnus and former civil engineering faculty member Walter Hanson, has been a longtime supporter of the program and has given five-year pledges for many years.

RailTEC, recognized in the rail industry as North America's premier railroad engineering program, has the largest selection of courses and broadest array of rail-related research of any North American university, providing leadership in research and curriculum development and encouraging students to pursue careers in rail engineering, transportation planning and operations.

"We are deeply grateful to Hanson Professional Services for this recent pledge and the company's longstanding commitment to our Rail Transportation and Engineering Center," said [Ana Barros](#), CEE department head. "For decades, Hanson's support has benefited countless students and helped the University of Illinois maintain its leadership in railroad engineering education."

Hanson's pledge, which was presented Oct. 28 at the university, supports RailTEC's advanced rail engineering courses and research on rail technologies that could improve safety, efficiency and reliability. It will help students secure internships and jobs in the rail industry and back Hanson's recruitment efforts for UIUC students. And it assists with advocating the importance of freight's impact, advanced rail technology and rail safety through outreach efforts, including Hanson's participation in the Engineering Open House and fostering minority students' interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics careers.

Hanson is a national, employee-owned consulting firm providing engineering, planning and allied

services. The firm's corporate headquarters is located at 1525 S. Sixth St., Springfield, IL 62703. The office may be reached by phone at (217) 788-2450.

For more information about Hanson, visit <http://www.hanson-inc.com>. For more information about RailTEC, visit <https://railtec.illinois.edu/>.



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