

Chevron Golf Programs Strengthen STEM Education

What do golf and science education have in common? The answer becomes obvious in the Chevron STEM Zone, a hands-on learning environment that illustrates the scientific concepts behind the game, and the Eagles for Education program, which helps fund science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) courses in high schools nationwide.

Present at the 2013 PGA Tour Championship and other pro golf tournaments, the STEM Zone features interactive stations that teach the science of golf on the course and behind the scenes, including principles of gravity, aerodynamics, speed, slope and acceleration, agronomy and even broadcast technology.

During the 2013 U.S. Open, more than 1,000 visitors attempted to recreate the putt that won Bob Jones the Grand Slam in 1930 using his famous "Calamity Jane" putter. Young fans could also measure speed on a putting green, test their swing in a golf simulator and read from a teleprompter in a broadcast studio setup.

"Chevron supports STEM education initiatives because these skills are essential to the success of our company and the vitality of our communities," said Steve Woodhead, manager of global social investments at Chevron. "In order to advance STEM education in the U.S., we must take a holistic approach. Creating awareness of how STEM is connected to our lives and fostering students' interest is only one piece of our approach. We also focus on bolstering engineering education and project-based learning so that there is a strong foundation when interested students engage."

The STEM Zone is a companion to Chevron's Eagles for Education program. Working with the U.S. Golf Association, Chevron donates \$5,000 for each eagle and \$10,000 for each double eagle or hole-in-one scored at designated competitions. Two remaining 2013 PGA Tour events will generate Eagles for Education funds: the Tour Championship, Sept. 19-22, and the Nature Valley First Tee Open, Sept. 24-29. Chevron expects to donate more than \$1.5 million to golf-related high school STEM programs in 2013.

"Chevron's contributions from these major golf tournaments are part of our investment in STEM-enriched educational programs that encourage students to pursue careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math," said Russ Yarrow, manager of partnerships and events for Chevron.

source: Chevron Corporation

17/09/2013