DTC Student and Project Partner Understandings

Design Thinking and Communication

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- 1. There is no charge to DTC project partners; however, project partners agree to supply student teams with the resources and information necessary to guide the project.
- 2. DTC provides approximately \$100 per team for materials. If the project partner wishes to have more costly materials used, they can provide either funds or materials to the team.
- 3. Student teams will deliver both a final report and any work product (e.g., prototype) to the project partner at a final presentation to be held at 2133 Sheridan Rd. in Evanston during the final week of the quarter.
- 4. Students retain the right to use the report for academic purposes.
- 5. On occasion, a DTC project may result in intellectual property (IP) sufficiently valuable that the project partner and/or students may wish to seek patent protection. In such cases it should be understood that:
 - Inventorship must be determined according to United States patent law.
 - Ownership of the IP, as well as licensing and related matters, must be agreed upon by the project partner, the students, and any other party, such as users or experts who significantly contributed to the invention. Northwestern University will not act as an agent in any such negotiations.
- 6. In the interest of maintaining an open intellectual environment and a free flow of ideas, DTC students may not sign nondisclosure or other contractual agreements.
- 7. Northwestern University's Patent and Invention Policy is documented at http://invo.northwestern.edu/policies/patent-invention-policy-current.
- 8. Historically, Northwestern University has never claimed an ownership interest in any invention arising from DTC; however, the University reserves the right to do so under this policy.
- 9. The client recognizes that the students are not professional designers, that the work product will not have been thoroughly tested, and that the work product will be delivered "as is." The project partner agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the students, the faculty and administrators of DTC and Northwestern University for use of the work product.

Print & Sign your Understanding & Agreement:

Project Partner Name:	Signature:	Date:
Student Name:	Signature:	Date:

Updated: June 2022