Dear Mr. Hauser,

My name is Gage Lochner and I am searching for companies to help support our University Rover Challenge program at Iowa State University! I am the project lead for Iowa State University’s University Rover Challenge team. Our team name is MAVRIC, which stands for Mars Analog Vehicle for Robotics Inspection and Construction. The students of our project work hard year round to design and build the next generation of Mars rovers that will one day work alongside human explorers in the field. We enter into a competition hosted by the University Rover Challenge, which holds the competition at the Mars Desert Research Station in Hanksville, Utah every year. The international competition only hosts the best 36 teams out of roughly 90 applicants, based on submitted documents and videos.

While we are partially funded by the Make to Innovate (M2I) program at ISU, we are still reliant on outside support to help us manufacture most of the rover's chassis and other components. Most of the smaller parts are made on campus as well which help our team members develop manufacturing skills and knowledge that are very helpful in industry.

As a result of our hands on education and experience, we teach real-world engineering and project management skills to students of different majors and backgrounds who often later seek employment with our sponsors. We also do outreach to local schools to promote STEM majors and careers, as well as outreach and events within the university.

We would like you to be a part of our team this upcoming year and would be grateful for any support Quality Manufacturing could provide us. Any person or company who supports our team will get their logo put onto the top of rovers cover panels, with the size of your logo being determined by your contribution. We will also feature you on our social media and website. Your assistance could help us take the next step towards becoming an elite Mars rover team while supporting the development of engineering leaders at Iowa State University. In addition, we would be interested in a tour of your facilities, and would like to invite you to speak to the team for recruitment purposes.

I’ve attached some links to demonstrate what our team does:

* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iiRPKxuO-TQ&app=desktop> (Last year’s design video)
* <http://urc.marssociety.org/home/about-urc> (URC Description)
* <https://www.facebook.com/isumavric/> (Facebook Page)
* <https://m2i.aere.iastate.edu/mavric/> (MAVRIC Website)
* <https://m2i.aere.iastate.edu/> (M2I Website)

I received your contact information from Derick Whited when he recommended your company to the team for manufacturing parts for the rover. I have attached schematics and a Solidworks file for the new chassis of our rover, which is the backbone of this years’ rover. It is also the item that we believe that your company could help us tremendously by manufacturing for us.

If you are interested or willing to help us attain our goals this year in any form or have any questions, please feel free to contact me by phone (319-855-8259) or by email at [glochner@iastate.edu](mailto:glochner@iastate.edu)

Thank you for your time and consideration,

**Gage Lochner**