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FOR RELEASE

MCWT Announces New President

DETROIT, Sept. 20, 2012 — The [Michigan Council of Women in Technology](#) appointed Maru Flores president. Flores, senior manager of global manufacturing and material planning and logistics development services for Ford Motor Co., replaces Donna Cheesebrough, who previously led the organization. Cheesebrough served as its president since 2010.

Previously, Flores was vice president of membership for MCWT.

“Our vision is bold: to make Michigan the No. 1 state for women in technology,” said Flores. “Under Donna’s leadership, we’ve continued to raise awareness of our mission, increase funds for our Foundation programs, and enhance member programs. I’m looking forward to continuing her momentum, working to encourage, advance and retain women in Michigan’s IT industry.”

Flores’ IT leadership experience includes roles within Ford in plant IT, Latin America Ford Credit, IT strategy, IT competency, the Ford Digital Worker Program, and Canada, Mexico and South America IT operations. She has expertise in commonization and implementation of systems across regions and business units; competitive intelligence; organizational development and change management; and mobile, collaboration and end-user productivity tool deployment. Flores was nominated a Top 100 Hispanic IT Professional and was a startup sponsor for the IT Women in Leadership group in Brazil. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration with a major in management information systems from the University of Arizona. She resides in Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich.

Flores will serve alongside the following MCWT board of directors:

- Resource management: Janet MacQueen, CIO and vice president, Blue Care Network of Michigan
- Strategy and operations: Mamatha Chamathi, CIO and vice president, Consumers Energy
- Partner development: Vishakha Radia, director, Customer Business Transformation, Collaboration Technology Group, Cisco ; and Rita Barrios, PhD., assistant professor at University of Detroit-Mercy and owner of TCS Consulting, LLC
- Foundation program development and scholarships: Charlotte Decker, chief technology officer and vice president, the Auto Club Group
- Treasurer: Kathleen Kay, senior vice president of business technology services, Comerica Bank
- Event management: Trish Davis
- Marketing and communications: Rebecca Johnson, account supervisor, Mullen
- Secretary: Jennifer Pfaff, director of global information technology, PMO & management support services, Jacobs
- Membership (acting): Marisa Bahn, planning manager, Office of the CIO, General Motors

Bahn, Barrios, Radia, and Davis are recent additions to the MCWT board.

The Michigan Council of Women in Technology promotes opportunity for women and girls within Michigan’s technology community. The organization supports Michigan’s female IT workforce, students, corporate partners, schools and the overall community with networking, corporate IT leadership development, mentoring, technology experiences for professionals and students, and funding for technology-oriented education. Its nonprofit foundation is dedicated to inspire and grow women in technology by providing programs that support the education and orientation of young women throughout school and fostering women in various stages of their professional lives. Find more information at www.mcwt.org and connect via [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and www.mcwtblog.org.

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