

Waterbury Students Represent State in National Aerospace Competition

02 /27/ 2009

Team K-Five, a group of students from Kennedy High School in Waterbury, CT, has won the state [Real World Design Challenge \(RWDC\)](#)! Pictured here from left to right are teacher Ken Ludwig, Jordan DeAngelis, William Betances, Lt. Gov. Fidele, Klejton Dinkollari, Lefter Dinkollari, and Michael Matic. These Kennedy students will travel to Washington, DC, to compete at the RWDC National Challenge, March 20–22, 2009. As part of their award, the U.S. Department of Energy will host this event and pay all trip expenses for Team K-Five and nine other winning state teams from across the continental US and Hawaii.



Not only will Kennedy High School represent our state, but a team of CCC Digital Media and Movie Making (DM3) students will film a documentary about Team K-Five, beginning with the issue of the challenge in October and ending with the national competition in March. DM3 students have their own challenge to create films that contain a “green theme” for the CT Student Film Festival (part of the [CT Student Innovation Expo](#), May 8–9), so filming a project about fuel efficiency in aviation, the 2009 RWDC challenge, is a perfect match.

Team K-5 spent several months generating solutions and utilizing engineering design software, collaborative Web-based tools, and the expertise of scientists and other mentors. All team submissions consisted of five major

parts: 1) fuel consumption value; 2) stall speed; 3) engineering journal; 4) engineering report; and 5) the presentation.

Judges gave a numerical score to the projects and reviewed the engineering report to validate the accuracy of the reported fuel consumption and stall speed. Projects were judged by Tony Dennis, National Center for Aerospace Leadership; Bill Farrell, General Electric/Electric Boat; Steve Gerber, TechnoSoft, Inc.; Bill Harris, Sikorsky Aircraft; Tom Holloway, CT Pre-Engineering Program; Z.B. Kremens, Dean of Engineering/Technology, Central CT State University; Kimberly Webster, CT Pre-Engineering Program; and Karen Wosczyzna-Birch, College of Technology/Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing.

The Kennedy kids continue their work as the National Challenge adds several components to the original aviation design challenge. Teams are asked to develop a marketing presentation explaining how and why they arrived at their proposed solution. Presentations will be made before an expert panel of professionals from industry, academia, and the federal government. Winners will be chosen based on the design solution, presentation, and project journal.

MORE ABOUT THE RWDC

The Real World Design Challenge is an annual event that provides high school students the opportunity to work on real-world engineering challenges in a team environment. Each year, student teams address a challenge that confronts one of our nation's leading industries. The RWDC gives students the chance to apply the lessons of the classroom to the technical problems that are being faced in the workplace. The specific challenge changes each year, but the underlying design principles remain constant, focusing on a different area of engineering.

[« Previous Post](#)

URL:/archive/2009/02/waterbury-students-represent-state-in-national-aerospace-competition/

©2004 CT Career Choices | info@ctcareerchoices.org