



High School Students to Compete in the Real World Design Challenge

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On Saturday, March 21, 57 high school students will compete in the U.S. Department of Energy's Real World Design Challenge in Washington, DC. This is anew annual competition that provides high school students with the opportunity to apply the lessons of the classroom to the technical problems currently faced in the engineering field. The theme for the 2009 is "Aviation and Fuel Consumption."

The Real World Design Challenge (RWDC) is a new annual competition that provides high school students with the opportunity to apply the lessons of the classroom to the technical problems currently faced in the engineering field.

The purpose of the RWDC is to ensure the future of our nation's economic competitiveness by inspiring today's students to become tomorrow's engineers.

The theme for the 2009 Challenge is "Aviation and Fuel Consumption." Student teams used professional engineering software to redesign an existing aircraft to maximize its fuel efficiency while meeting specific performance capabilities. During the March 21 event, teams will present their solutions to a panel of judges. Presentations are open to the media.

The States of Connecticut, Hawaii, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington ran state level Real World Design Challenges to select a winning team to compete in the National Challenge. DOE provided the ten winning state teams with expense-paid trips to the national competition.

The Real World Design Challenge is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science, in partnership with Parametric Technology Corporation, Cessna Aircraft Company and the Federal Aviation Administration.

For more information on the teams and the Real World Design Challenge, please go to:
<http://www.scied.science.doe.gov/RWDC/index.html>

Notes to editor:

Reporters may call the press room (202-207-6134) on Saturday to request an interview with the students and coaches.

Subject: Aerospace Technology; Education Training; Engineering; Environmental Science; Science and Society; Social Aspects; Transport;

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Institution: Other;

Category: Event;

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