OVERVIEW

The influence of technology on the environment remains a serious concern for individuals, communities and governments worldwide. New and innovative approaches to dealing with these concerns must be developed and applied.

CHALLENGE

Participants are to identify and research a specific environmental problem or issue that has been influenced by advancements in technology. They will gather information, analyze data, develop strategies and submit conclusions relative to the specific problem or issue. Students will present their findings in the form of a multimedia presentation.

ELIGIBILITY

Participants are limited to one (1) team per chapter. There is a limit of two (2) student representatives per team for the presentation and semifinalist interview.

TIME LIMITS

A. The entry must be completed during the current school year.

B. Semifinalist are limited to ten (10) minutes to complete the multimedia presentation of their solution to the identified environmental problem.

ATTIRE

Professional TSA attire as described in Competitive Events Attire is the minimum requirement.

PROCEDURE

A. Participants check in entries at the time and place stated in the conference program. Entries are reviewed by evaluators. Neither students nor advisors are present at this time. A semifinalist list in random order is posted.

☑ What issues are of concern in your community's environment? How can your chapter help? Think about these questions when your team identifies a problem or issue for this event.

B. The two (2) representatives of each semifinalist team complete the multimedia presentation of the team's solution to the environmental problem.

C. No more than two (2) team members pick up their entry from the display area at the time and place stated in the conference program.

REGULATIONS

A. Chapters must identify, research and document a specific environmental problem or issue relative to local, state, national or international concerns. Examples of methods to document this information could include surveys, interviews, government reports, newspaper and magazine articles, television programs, etc.

B. Teams must conduct research, collect and analyze data, develop strategies, formulate conclusions and prepare recommendations.

C. A standard three (3)-ring binder, with a clear front sleeve for a cover page, is required. The cover page must include the event title, the conference city and state, and the year; this page also contains an original graphic design depicting and representing the specific environmental problem or issue being documented and presented. The inside of the binder may not exceed twelve (12) typed single-sided, 8 1/2" x 11" pages as follows:

1. Title page, with event title, conference city and state, and the year
2. Table of contents
3. Problem identification
4. Research (should include photographs where applicable)
5. Data collection and analysis
6. Strategies for addressing or solving the problem
7. Conclusions
8. Recommendations
9. Plan of Work log that indicates preparation for the event, as noted by date, task, time involved, team member responsible, and comments (See Plan of Work log) *These pages are not included in the total above.*
10. Copy of multimedia presentation slides, six (6) per page. *These pages are not included in the total above.*
11. Tab dividers are not to be used to separate the sections and pages of the report.
12. *Nothing should be included on the back side of any pages within the notebook.*

D. Any special set-up or equipment required for the semifinalist presentation is the responsibility of the participants.

E. Students are encouraged to use multimedia software to organize and prepare their semifinalist presentations. This will allow them to create the slides printout required as part of their documentation.

EVALUATION

Evaluation is based on the review and rating of the documentation of the environmental issues or concerns to determine the ten (10) semifinalists, who then present their multimedia presentations to the judges.

STEM INTEGRATION

This event has connections to the STEM areas noted below. Please refer to the STEM INTEGRATION section of this guide.

Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics

LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Leadership skills promoted in this event:

- Communication: Students communicate problems and solutions through presentation. Use leadership lessons: *Did you Know?* and *It's All in the Details*
- Critical Thinking: Students understand problem thoroughly and brainstorm solutions. Use leadership lessons: *Pros and Cons* and *The Reporter*
- Evaluation: Students identify, research, and analyze an environmental problem. Use leadership lesson: *Evaluation of the Experts* and *Exhaustive Evaluation*

Additional leadership skills promoted in this event:
- Creative Thinking
- Problem Solving
- Teamwork

TSA AND CAREERS

This competition has connections to one or more of the career areas featured in the TSA AND CAREERS section of this guide. Use *The 16 Career Clusters* chart and the *TSA Competitions and Career Clusters* grid as resources for information about careers.

CAREERS RELATED TO THIS EVENT

Environmental engineer
Environmental issue professor
Game warden
Urban and regional planner
Waste management engineer

TECHNOLOGY STUDENT ASSOCIATION
PLAN OF WORK

Date	Task	Time involved	Team member responsible	Comments
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

Advisor signature _____

ENVIRONMENTAL FOCUS
EVENT COORDINATOR INSTRUCTIONS

PERSONNEL

A. Event coordinator

B. Event evaluators, three (3)

C. Assistants, two (2)

MATERIALS

A. Coordinator's notebook, containing:

1. Event guidelines, one (1) each for coordinator and evaluators/assistants
2. Official rating forms
3. List of entries with finalist report
4. List of evaluators/assistants
5. Marking pens for evaluators
6. Stick-on labels for numbering entries
7. Semifinalist list for posting
8. Results envelope

B. Stopwatch for time keeping

C. Display tables for entries

D. Tables and chairs for evaluators

RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Upon arrival at the conference, report to the CRC room and check the contents of the coordinator's notebook. Review the event guidelines and check to see that enough evaluators/assistants have been scheduled.

B. Inspect the area(s) in which the event is to be held for appropriate set-up, including room size, chairs, tables, outlets, etc. Notify the event manager of any potential problems.

C. Check in the entries at the time stated in the conference program. Anyone reporting who is not on the entry list may check in only after official notification is received from the CRC chairperson. Late entries are considered on a case-by-case basis and only when the lateness is caused by events beyond the participant's control. Requirements for attire do NOT apply during check-in.

D. Place entry numbers in the lower right hand corner of the binders. Turn in the entries /binders in the designated area.

E. Meet with your evaluators/assistants to review time limits, procedures, and regulations. If questions arise that cannot be answered, speak to the event manager before the event begins.

F. For participants who violate the rules, the decision either to deduct twenty percent (20%) of the total possible points or disqualify the entry must be discussed and verified with the evaluators, event coordinator, and a CRC manager. Secure the initials of the coordinator and manager on the rating form.

G. Evaluators average their three (3) scores to determine the ten (10) semifinalists. Any ties that affect the top three (3) places should be broken by using the highest average score for evaluative criteria.

H. Secure the evaluators' signatures on their rating forms. Through the discussion process, the evaluators break any ties that affect the top three (3) placements.

I. Submit the finalist report, including a ranking of the ten (10) finalists, and all related forms in the results envelope to the CRC room.

J. If necessary, manage security and the removal of materials from the event area.

ENVIRONMENTAL FOCUS

2010 & 2011 OFFICIAL RATING FORM									MIDDLE SCHOOL		
PARTICIPANT/TEAM ID#											
EVALUATIVE CRITERIA											
Cover page (includes graphic required information......................2 pts.											
Title page ....1 pt.											
Table of contents ....1 pt.											
Identification of problem ....10 pts.											
Research ....15 pts.											
Data collection and analysis ....15 pts.											
Strategies ....10 pts.											
Conclusions ....10 pts.											
Recommendations ....10 pts.											
Plan of Work log ....1 pt.											
Multimedia presentation [copy of slides print-out with six (6) slides per page] ....5 pts.											
SUBTOTAL ....80 pts.											
Interview/presentation (20 pts.)											
Problem identification ....2 pts.											
Research ....2 pts.											
Data collection and analysis ....2 pts.											
Strategies ....2 pts.											
Recommendations ....2 pts.											
Presentation is well organized, clear, and articulate, with equal participation from both representatives ....3 pts.											
Responses to questions are thoughtful and knowledgeable) ....3 pts.											
Effective use of multimedia materials ....4 pts.											
SUBTOTAL ....20 pts.											
Rules violation (must be initialed by coordinator and manager) ....minus 20% of the total possible pts.											
TOTAL ....100 pts.											

Comments:

I certify these results to be true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Evaluator

Printed name: _____   Signature: _____