

Western Aerospace Centre Prize 2009

A recognition of Continuing Professional Development



The purpose of the prize is to encourage the further professional development of young engineers living and working in the West of England and South Wales, following graduation with a first degree.

The format of the competition is intended to test the technical, business and communication skills required of an engineer when preparing and delivering a presentation to a symposium.

A 750 word abstract, summarising the author's work on an aerospace related research or development project, must be submitted to your company or university's IMechE 'link'. They will review the applications and submit one entry from your organisation to the Western Aerospace Centre by **31 January 2009**. The selected finalists will be invited to give a 20 minute presentation at the **Presentation Evening** scheduled for **Monday 4 April 2009** at the University of Bristol, in front of a panel including engineering directors from the region's leading Aerospace organisations. More details are provided overleaf.

A theme of **Sustainability and the Environment** is encouraged but all entries will be assessed with equal weight.

The four finalists will have a full day with the Red Arrows, and the overall winner will receive a **£500** first prize. Runner up cash prizes will also be awarded in two categories: for post-graduate students in full time education and engineers in Industry.

This is a chance to represent your company or organisation, to gain exposure to senior aerospace representatives from industry and academia, and for employers to encourage professional development amongst their engineers.

The Western Aerospace Centre is part of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers' Aerospace Industries Division.



RULES

1. The competition is open to practising graduate engineers and post-graduate engineering students who are living, studying or working in IMechE Region 9 (Wessex), 10 (Western) or 12 (South Wales) and who are aged **35 or under** on 31st January 2009. Students registered on the CPDA scheme run by the University of Bristol and/or the Rolls-Royce EEPDS are eligible, provided that they meet the age requirement.
2. Submissions could be based on work that is being carried out for a further qualification e.g. MSc, PhD, or any other formal professional development programme, or on an engineering project completed in the previous calendar year.
3. **An abstract** of not more than 750 words in the main body (excluding title, contact details etc), summarising the author's work on an aerospace related research or development project, must be submitted to your company or university's IMechE link. He or she will review the abstracts and submit one chosen candidate entry from your organisation to the Western Aerospace Centre by **31st January 2009**. The WAC Hon Secretary can provide contact details for your organisation's IMechE link if necessary.
4. **Each submission must be entirely the work of its author and be based on current or recent activities in the field of Aerospace. Abstracts must not have been previously submitted for any other prize competition, published in the proceedings of professional bodies or publicly presented.** [Abstracts or papers that have been presented internally, as academic assignments or reports of professional activity, are considered not to have been formally published or presented.]
5. The candidate abstracts from each organisation are to be submitted in soft copy to Pauli Markkanen the Hon Secretary of the WAC, at wacsec@imeche.org. They should include contact details of the entrant, date of birth, and a statement that the submission is entirely the work of the author.
6. A theme of Sustainability and the Environment in Aviation is encouraged, as this accords with a number of the IMechE central themes (Energy, Environment, Transport and Education), see www.imeche.org.uk for more details. All entries will however be considered.
7. All authors must obtain permission from their employers/tutors, where appropriate, to publish any work that is considered proprietary; all papers will be printed for distribution to adjudicators and will be returned to authors or destroyed on completion of the competition.
8. The adjudicating panel, appointed by the WAC Committee, will consist of at least three members including senior Engineering Directors from the Region's leading Aerospace companies.
9. A short list of up to 4 finalists will be invited to proceed to the Presentation Evening, where they will make an oral presentation of no more than 20 minutes duration, plus 10 minutes for questions.
10. The panel will be looking for a well written and structured abstract and presentation, also giving an appreciation of how the project relates to the wider organisation's business goals. The competition will test the author's technical knowledge and communication skills.
11. The adjudicating panel will assess each presentation and the winner will be announced at the Presentation Evening. A photograph and short biography of the Winner, together with an abstract of their presentation, will be published in IMechE literature and on the website.
12. Prizes will be awarded in two categories – Academic, for those in full time post-graduate education, and Industry, for those in full time employment, including part time study for MSc.
13. The first prize of **£500** will be awarded to the overall winner for the best combined written abstract and oral presentation. Additionally, there will be cash prizes for the runners-up in both Academic and Industry categories.
14. The four finalists will visit the Red Arrows for a full corporate day on Monday 9th March 2009, including the Squadron presentation, sitting in on the pilots' in-brief for a training sortie, watching the practice display at RAF Scampton, followed by the in-depth debriefing. The finalists will enjoy lunch with the pilots, and will have plenty of opportunities for photographs, rounding off with an Engineering tour of the hangar.

Issued by the WAC Committee, September 2008