

About the Competition

This is a weekend competition, and is self-contained. The only information provided to the students when they arrive is the year of the scenario and that they will be designing a future space colonization mechanism.

The Program Book they receive the first night describes technologies assumed available in the year of the proposal and a few generalities about the scenario. Details of the Request for Proposal (RFP) are not revealed to them until late the second morning of the Competition. They have 21 hours to prepare a design and presentation (if they don't eat or sleep).

Yes, it's stressful for the students – and beautifully emulates the experience of working on an industry proposal team. The idea is not to get a perfect design, but to present a better proposal than the other teams in the time available.

Information about past competitions and "qualifying proposals" can be found on the spaceset.org website.

Space Settlement Design Competitions have existed for over 20 years, and the next finalist competition in 2007 will be the 14th Annual International Competition.

"The Competition...has strengthened my interest in aerospace and has given me a path that I would like to follow in the future."

-- Student

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Rocky Mountain Semi-Final

February 9th - 11th 2007

The Rocky Mountain event is a semi-final competition for the International Space Settlement Design Competition that will be held at NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston Texas with actual engineers sharing their knowledge and experience.

Semi-Finalist teams are formed into four competing companies. The four companies meet to prepare designs in an intensive two-and-a-half day version of the Finalist Competition. The winning Semi-Finalist team becomes the Rocky Mountain Region Finalist Team.

International Finalist Competition at Johnson Space Center

www.spaceset.org

The eight Finalist teams are paired to form four competing companies which will design a settlement on an extraterrestrial surface.

Students will work in conditions that resemble those experienced by members of high-pressure proposal teams in industry, with assistance from actual working engineers and managers.

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Designs will be presented to an audience that includes the judges and competing teams. Presenters will answer the judges' questions about their designs. Judges will select a winning design and provide a debrief describing merits and weak points of the proposals.

Benefits to a sponsor

- Advertising the event will acknowledge Sponsors
- Sponsors will be listed in the Program Book for the event
- Potential Summer Interns can be found
- Opportunity to provide volunteers (Team building event)
- Major Sponsors can write a letter to the student participants that will be included in the Program Book for the event
- Inspire students to pursue Engineering and Science careers
- Make favorable early impressions on students that may turn them into future employees

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How to Help

Your company can help make this happen by donating funding and/or providing:

- Funding for meals, lodging and venue
- Funding or providing printing and copying services
- Funding or providing use of office equipment and computers
- Providing volunteers to mentor and instruct the student participants
- Funding to send the winning team to the International Finalist Competition at Johnson Space Center in Houston Texas.

Note that all contributions are tax-deductible.

Sponsors welcome to attend whether or not they volunteer as individuals

"The entire trip will always have a long lasting impact on the rest of my life. It was unforgettable."
-- Student

"Because of the Space Settlement Design Competition experiences, six of the Class of '96 earned [college] scholarships."
-- Teacher

"I learned I don't know everything. You need inputs from all. It's the parts that make the whole."
-- Student

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How to help or sign up - Contact organizers:

Roy Nielsen
(505) 412-9204

amrobot@mindspring.com
Rocky Mountain Coordinator

Laurie Hixson
(505) 667-0911

lhixson@lanl.gov
Los Alamos National Lab

Location:

The Best Western Hilltop House in Los Alamos, New Mexico. Contact Information:

Kristy Keane
kristy@bwhilltop.com

Director of Sales and Marketing
(505) 662-1118

Please mention the "group name RMSSDC" when reserving a room with Kristy or at the hotel desk. Reservations will be guaranteed until January 26th, 2006. Please do not reserve a room through the web or a travel agent.

Date:

February 9th - 11th, 2007

To Donate:

Contact the organizers or mail a check to:

Los Alamos Kiwanis co/RMSSDC
PO Box 1384
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Many thanks to the Los Alamos Kiwanis for providing necessary organizational help!

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The International Space Settlement Design Competition Needs Your Help to Inspire Students

The Rocky Mountain Coordinators are seeking sponsors to establish a Semi-Finalist round of the *International Space Settlement Design Competition*, which will enable 100 Rocky Mountain students in the U.S. and Canada to participate in this unique experience.

One team of students from this Region will advance to the Finalist Competition at Johnson Space Center in Texas, where it will compete against teams from Asia and Australia and perhaps Europe and South Africa.

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