



Institution of **MECHANICAL ENGINEERS**

Western Aerospace Centre Prize Competition 2017 – Engineering Communication Excellence

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 their graduation. The format of the competition is intended to test the technical, business and communication skills required of an engineer.

The selected finalists will be invited to give a 20 minute presentation at the **Presentation Evening** at the University of Bristol, in front of a panel including engineering directors from the region's leading Aerospace organisations.

To enter, submit a 750 word abstract summarising your research or development project on any aviation related topic to the Western Aerospace Centre by **30th January 2017**.

The overall winner will receive a **£500** first prize, and the three runners-up will each receive £100. Subject to confirmation, the **four finalists** will have a day visiting the **Red Arrows**.

More details and rules are provided overleaf.



COMPETITION 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 2017.
2. Submissions could be based on work that is being carried out on an industrial engineering project or for a further qualification e.g. MSc, PhD, EngD or any other formal professional development programme completed in the recent past. Undergraduate (including MEng) project work is NOT eligible for consideration.
3. Submissions can be based upon the author's individual project, or part of a group project providing the author's contribution to the project is made clear.
4. **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, should be submitted to the Western Aerospace Centre by **Monday 30th January 2017**. Candidates are encouraged to have entries reviewed prior to submission by a suitable technical authority in your company or university, to provide assurance that entries are of sufficiently high standard.
5. More than one entry per organisation is permitted.
6. 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.]
7. The candidate abstracts from each organisation are to be submitted in soft copy to Pauli Markkanen (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 and has not previously been published elsewhere.
8. All authors must obtain permission from their employers/tutors, where appropriate, to publish any work that is considered proprietary. Gaining such permission is entirely the responsibility of the candidate.
9. The adjudicating panel, appointed by the WAC Committee, will consist of senior people drawn from both academic and industrial backgrounds.
10. 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.
11. The panel will be looking for the abstract and presentation to be structured and well written, 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.
12. 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. Submission of an entry to the competition is assumed as permission to publish associated photographs and abstracts on the website.
13. The first prize of **£500** will be awarded to the overall winner for the best combined written abstract and oral presentation. The runners-up will receive £100 each.
14. The four finalists may, subject to confirmation, have a chance to visit the Red Arrows, which includes the Squadron presentation, pilots' in-brief for a training sortie, watching the practice display at RAF Scampton (weather permitting), followed by the in-depth debriefing. The visit typically includes lunch with the pilots and opportunities for photographs, rounding off with an Engineering tour of the hangar.



Western Aerospace Centre events supported by:

Issued by the WAC Committee, November 2016

