Technology Challenge

Launchpad Deadlines:
Team Profile Draft: February 15, 2017
Open Judging Begins: May 1, 2017

Requirements & FAQ

What is the 2017 Expo Fest Theme?
The 2017 Expo Fest theme is Fresh Perspectives! As a class, your team will brainstorm and decide how this theme resonates and use this theme as a tool for inspiration and project direction. It is your responsibility to make sure Fresh Perspectives is clearly incorporated in your Expo Fest project.

What does the Skills21 Technology Challenge Category mean?
Skills21 Technology Challenge Category allows any technology course or club to compete in the Expo Fest Challenge project. Projects will be presented as new tech companies seeking buzz and funding to take the team startup to the next level. Tech companies should revolve around but are not limited to one of the following; Mobile Apps Designs, Mobile App Development, and Wearable Technology.

What is the Challenge?
Create and implement a new physical or digital product or service that addresses the overall Expo Fest theme of *Fresh Perspectives*.

What are the expectations of the Challenge?
All Teams will:

- Identify a problem that will be addressed by the project idea.
- Investigate the topic via research, development, experiment or testing method, and data analysis.
- Develop an innovative solution (product, artifact, or community action) that addresses the problem.
- Demonstrate application of the solution with experimentation and/or prototype.
- Showcase the project via a professional exhibition booth and presentation at Expo Fest on May 19 & 20, 2017 at the Toyota Presents Oakdale Theatre, Wallingford, CT.

What are the projects judged on?
Team projects will be judged by academia and professionals in the following areas:

- Project Idea Viability & Creativity
- Evidence of Theme: Fresh Perspectives
- Presentation
- Research & Development
- Mathematical Thinking
- Written Documentation
- Online Presence: Website & Social Media
- Marketing & Image
- Professionalism

Judging Rubrics will be made available on skills21.org and Skills21 Launchpad this fall.

What Deliverables are Required for the Challenge?
Skills21 Technology Challenge specific deliverables can be found in the Judging Guidelines, deliverables are reflective of the New Media or Technology course. Generally, it is expected that all projects include the following:

- Focus Group Surveys and Test Audiences
- Visual representation of collected data
- Project written documentation
- Online hub for project information (linked from Launchpad)

- Three minute presentation

What is Launchpad?
Launchpad is the Skills21 web app that provides a number of resources to guide successful completion of the Expo Fest Challenge Project. Teams are able to access the full Skills21 catalog of courses as well as the episode guides and a suite of relevant resources. Additionally, all teams will create a team profile via Launchpad. Team profiles will contain a project description and link to all Expo Fest deliverables. Judges will have direct access to the team profile page.

What is Trackpad?
Trackpad is the Skills21 online assessment tool that gives judges access to your Skills21 Launchpad profile. Judges will score your project directly from Trackpad leading up to and during Expo Fest. Judges are encouraged to leave critical feedback via Trackpad.

Disclaimer
Skills21 reserves the rights to determine the appropriateness of any project submitted to Expo Fest. If a topic or project name show possible signs of controversy we will ask for written approval from both the school principal and district superintendent to showcase the subject matter at Expo Fest.