

Looking For Future Engineers For Future Needs

(NAPS)—Every day, engineers must solve myriad problems. But, when it comes to the unknown problems of the future, many engineers are turning to seventh- and eighth-graders in the annual National Engineers Week Future City Competition™. The program asks students to design and build a city of tomorrow, first on computer and then in three-dimensional scale models, and deal with urban challenges such as traffic jams, crime, and pollution. This year, the competition, now in its ninth year, reached a record 26,000 boys and girls.



The program began in 1993 with approximately 600 students. This year seven new regions—Alabama, Colorado, Dallas/Fort Worth, Las Vegas, Massachusetts, Minneapolis/St. Paul, and San Francisco—joined 18 others that participated last year, including Buffalo, Chicago, South Florida, Hampton Roads, Houston, Los Angeles, Michigan, Milwaukee, New York City, Ohio, Oklahoma, Omaha, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Washington, D.C., and Washington State. New regions participating in 2002 include Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, North Carolina, and Utah.

First place teams from the regional programs won a free trip to Washington for national finals on February 20 and 21, hosted by Bentley Systems, in the middle of National Engineers Week, co-chaired in 2001 by the National Society of Professional Engineers and IBM.

Registration deadline for the 2002 Future City Competition is October 15, 2001. For more information, visit www.futurecity.org.