



5th Annual INCOSE Great Lakes Regional Conference

Systems Engineering: Leveraging Adaptability to Tame Uncertainty
Industry | Medical | Government | Education
November 4-6, 2011 – Dearborn, Michigan

Tool Vendor Challenge Rules

1. Goal

The goals of the Tool Vendor Challenge are:

- To provide an opportunity for tool vendors to display their understanding of SE and how their tool supports SE activities
- To provide an opportunity for the conference attendees to gauge the insight of the Tool Vendor representatives in SE and how the tools of the various vendors might help them in their SE activities
- To provide a common context for the comparative evaluation of the capabilities of participating SE tools

2. Model

A common benchmark scenario will be presented as a challenge to the participating tool vendors seven days before the conference. During a designated period on Saturday or Sunday, two vendors will be provided a 20 minute opportunity to present their approach and results and the results will be posted on the conference website.

3. Exhibition

Each vendor is expected to exhibit (at their own cost) during the conference, and to use the opportunity to present his solution to participants. There is no limit to the time that can be spent explaining the solution at the stand or the “sales” content of the presentation at the booth.

4. Not more than two people to present

There are no limits to how many team members may be involved in crafting the response to the challenge, but during the presentation, no more than two presenters per vendor may be on stage.

5. No marketing at the presentation

During the presentation, no marketing information may be presented, aside from the name of the company and its product.

6. Form of the presentations

During the TVC track, each vendor has about 20 minutes to present their solution. There will be 1 screen and 1 projection device provided.

7. Order of presentations

The order of the presentations will be in the same order as the responses are received to the formal invitation.

8. Registering for the TVC

A tool vendor has to sign-up with the TVC Chair (Michael Vinarcik, incosemi@gmail.com) stating the company name and contact person name with e-mail address. While registering, attach the company logo to be used on the conference website and promotional materials. Please provide it in EPS and a web-friendly format.



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9. Communication about the TVC

All communication, including TVC sign-up confirmation and the disclosure of the Challenge Problem Statement will be between the named contact person and the TVC Chair by email. It is up to the named contact person to keep his/her contact email, as known by the TVC Chair, up-to-date.

10. The Challenge Problem Statement

The Challenge will describe a fictional company that is developing a system to which all the conference attendees can relate. A “high level” description of this system will be supplied.

For a first, limited functionality, version of the system, participants should:

- Compose the system specification
- Show requirements handling
- Define the system in its environment
- Define logical sub-systems, flows from sub-systems to the environment and flows between one sub-system to another
- Define sub-system activities
- Describe the functional modes of the system and transfers between them Identify the main dynamic procedures in the different functional modes, and describe the control of two of the identified procedures
- Describe how artifacts are managed in multi-site environments
- Describe how artifact configurations (baselines) are managed

The exact details of the questions may change, but this is indicative of the final challenge question.

11. Listing of participating Tool Vendors

A list of participating tool vendors will be published on the conference website to encourage participation.

12. Registration Deadline

Registration will be closed at October 25th, at 23:59 PDT. Only the first 8 participants are guaranteed presentation time.

13. Disclosure of the Challenge Problem Statement

The challenge statement will be posted to the website and sent directly to the contact person at each vendor on Oct 26th, 2011.

14. Solutions to be published at the conference website

Tool vendors have the opportunity to submit their solutions for publication on the conference website after the event.

15. The TVC is NOT a competition

The challenge is envisioned as a mechanism to allow conference attendees who are seriously evaluating system engineering tools to have a fair basis of insight and comparison each vendor’s product(s). It is not a competition, but rather a win-win event for all.

16. Further Questions

Further questions can be communicated with the TVC Chair, Michael Vinarcik (incosemi@gmail.com)