

# GE Energy Geospatial Grid Contest

## Official Rules

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN

- 1) **DESCRIPTION:** The GE Energy Geospatial Grid Contest (the "Contest") is a competition asking students (as individuals or in teams) from U.S. universities to submit scientific research, using accepted academic research procedures, to advance the state of knowledge about how geospatial technologies can be used to improve the performance of the electric grid. A prize will be awarded to the participant who submits the best research paper, as determined by the judges in accordance with the criteria in these Official Rules.
- 2) **BINDING AGREEMENT:** In order to enter the Contest, you must agree to these Official Rules ("Rules"). Therefore, please read these Rules prior to entry to ensure you understand and agree. You agree that submission of an entry in the Contest constitutes agreement to these Rules. These Rules form a binding legal agreement between you and GE Energy with respect to the Contest. By entering, you agree to all decisions of the Sponsor, which are final and binding.
- 3) **SPONSOR:** The Contest is sponsored by GE Digital Energy ("GE Energy" or "Sponsor"), 4200 Wildwood Parkway, Atlanta GA 30339.
- 4) **ELIGIBILITY:** To be eligible to enter the Contest, you must be:
  - a. At least 18 years or older at the time of entry;
  - b. Currently enrolled as a higher education student in either an undergraduate, graduate or postgraduate course focused on geospatial technology;
  - c. A legal resident of the 50 United States or the District of Columbia.
- 5) Contest is void where prohibited by law. Employees and contractors of General Electric Company and its subsidiaries and members of their immediate families (parents, children, siblings, spouse) are not eligible for this Contest.
- 6) **HOW TO ENTER:**
  - a. You may enter as an individual or as a team. If two or more individuals enter as a team, each individual member of the team must meet the eligibility requirements for entering in these Rules.
  - b. Write a research paper on a topic addressing how geospatial technologies can be used to improve the performance of the electric grid. By way of example, topics may include, but are not limited to, management of large spatial databases, architectures for real-time spatial data, use of volunteered geographic information for grid management, geocollaboration, innovative user interfaces, spatial foundations of grid analytics, integration of sensors into network models, and more.
  - c. The research submitted in this Contest must be the original work of the entrant(s). Research may build upon the current base of knowledge and tools, but should offer unique and original ideas, tools, or solutions. The Entry can, but is not required to, include software code and applications. It must meet the

accepted definition of research, namely, creative work undertaken systematically.

- d. The research process should include these steps:
  - i. Identification of research problem
  - ii. Review of relevant literature
  - iii. Definition of specific research target
  - iv. Data collection
  - v. Analysis of data
  - vi. Reporting of research results
- e. Research must have been completed no earlier than the 2011-2012 academic year in the course of the entrant's undergraduate or graduate studies and can include thesis and dissertation topics. Papers must be written entirely by the entrant, or entrants in the case of a team entry; however, thesis and dissertation advisors may be listed as co-authors on the papers without being listed as entrants in the Contest, with the permission of the advisor.
- f. If your research includes software code and/or applications, your paper must include a description of the origin of the software code or application used.
- g. All papers must be in English.
- h. The research paper with all exhibits and/or attachments, if any, must be submitted in a single PDF document. File size may not exceed 10MB.
- i. All papers must also include a cover sheet in the document. The cover sheet must include "GE Energy Geospatial Grid Contest," the title of the paper, the full names, mailing addresses, e-mail addresses and phone numbers of each entrant, the name of the course in which the student(s) is/are enrolled, the name of the professor for the course, and the name of the higher education institution in which the entrant(s) is/are enrolled. If entering as a team, the cover sheet should also designate one entrant as the "leader" of the team, who will receive any communications on behalf of the team relating to the entry. If a team fails to designate a leader, Sponsor reserves the right to randomly select one of the entrants listed on the cover sheet to act as the leader.
- j. To enter the Contest, send an e-mail to the Contest coordinator at [geospatialgridcontest@ge.com](mailto:geospatialgridcontest@ge.com) attaching the pdf file with your entry and cover sheet. The Subject line of the e-mail must state "GE Energy Geospatial Grid Contest Entry."
- k. All entries must be received by 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on April 16, 2013. The server hosting the [geospatialgridcontest@ge.com](mailto:geospatialgridcontest@ge.com) e-mail is the official time clock for the Contest.
- l. An individual entrant may submit more than one Entry, but the research papers in each Entry must be different.
- m. Entries become the property of Sponsor and will not be acknowledged or returned.
- n. GE Energy reserves the right to disqualify any submissions containing matter inappropriate to the Contest, or otherwise nonconforming to these Rules, as determined in its sole discretion.

- 7) **JUDGING:** A panel of judges will review all eligible entries and will select one (1) winning entry based on the following judging criteria: scientific/technical accuracy; creativity/originality; usefulness and impact of the work; quality of presentation; thoroughness of research/methods/procedures; quality of conclusions; and demonstration of knowledge gained. This is a contest of skill. Whether or not your entry is selected as the winner depends on how well your paper scores on the judging criteria when compared to the other entries in the Contest.
- 8) **WINNER NOTIFICATION:** Sponsor will notify the potential winner (or leader of a potentially winning team) on or about May 16th, 2013, by telephone and/or email. Potential winner(s), including each member of a potentially winning team, must sign and return a declaration of eligibility and liability/publicity release and an IRS W-9 form within ten (10) days of receipt in order to claim the prize. If Sponsor is unable to reach the potential winner/leader by telephone, or if a notification e-mail is returned as undeliverable, or if the potential winner(s) fail to return on time the signed documentation required to claim the prize, or if a potential winner is determined to be ineligible or to have violated these Rules, that potential winner (or winning team) will be disqualified, the prize will be forfeited, and the entry with the next highest score from the judges will be notified as a potential winner in accordance with this procedure until a winner can be confirmed.
- 9) **PRIZE:** The entrant(s) of the winning research paper will receive a \$5000 cash prize. The prize will be awarded in the form of a check made payable to the entrant for the winning entry, mailed to winner(s) within approximately six weeks of receipt by GE Energy of final prize claim documents. If the winning entry was submitted by a team of two or more entrants, Sponsor will divide the \$5000 cash prize equally among the team members and will issue separate checks, each made payable to one team member. Sponsor will issue IRS 1099 forms to the winner(s) at the appropriate time in the amount of the check(s) issued, for any amount over \$600. Winner(s) is/are solely responsible for payment of any local, state, or federal taxes applicable to winning the prize.
- 10) **PRIVACY:** Entrants agree that personal data entered during the registration, including name, mailing address, phone number, and email address may be processed, stored, shared and otherwise used for the purposes and within the context of the Contest. By entering, entrants agree to the transmission, processing, sharing and storage of this personal data in the United States.
- 11) **PUBLICITY.** By accepting a prize, winner agrees that GE Energy and its agencies may use his or her name and/or likeness, university affiliation, and description of the research for advertising and promotional purposes in any media, without limitation and without additional compensation, unless prohibited by law.
- 12) **WARRANTIES:** By submitting an Entry, you represent and warrant that all information in your Entry is true and complete to the best of your knowledge, and that your Entry:
  - a. and the ideas discussed in the paper are original to the entrant(s) and that the works and ideas of others are clearly cited with proper references in the paper;
  - b. does not contain confidential information or trade secrets (yours or anyone else's);

- c. to the best of the entrant's knowledge does not violate or infringe upon the patent rights, industrial design rights, copyrights, trademarks, rights of privacy, publicity or other intellectual property or other rights of any person or entity;
  - d. to the best of the entrant's knowledge is not the subject of a patent or pending patent application;
  - e. does not contain malicious code, such as viruses, timebombs, cancelbots, worms, Trojan horses or other potentially harmful programs or other material or information;
  - f. does not and will not violate any applicable law, statute, ordinance, rule or regulation; and
  - g. does not trigger any reporting or royalty obligation to any third party.
- 13) **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS:** By submitting a research paper in this Contest, each individual entrant assigns and transfers to GE Energy all proprietary rights in and to the original ideas and research that are the subject of the paper. Entrants understand and agree that, as the owner of all rights in the ideas and entries, GE Energy may use the research and ideas to develop its own commercial products and services and otherwise use, reproduce, distribute, edit, translate, exploit, publish, post, display and create derivative works from the research and entry materials for any commercial or non-commercial purposes in any manner and in any medium now known or hereafter devised throughout the world in perpetuity without restriction and without further obligation to entrants or any other party. Entrants agree and understand that, as the owner of all rights in the ideas and entries, Sponsor is under no obligation to entrant(s) and may choose not to use the research, ideas and entry materials in developing future products and services. Entrants specifically acknowledge and agree that entrants may not use the research and ideas submitted in the Entry as the basis for developing commercial products or services, which rights are transferred exclusively to GE Energy by virtue of submitting the Entry. Entrants agree not to instigate, support, maintain or authorize any action or lawsuit against Sponsor and/or its affiliates, or any of their employees, officers, directors, or agents, on the ground that any use or development of their research, ideas or entries infringes any of their rights as creators of such research, ideas or entries, or on the ground that Sponsor has not commercially exploited their research, ideas or entries.
- 14) **ADDITIONAL WARRANTIES AND INDEMNITY:** Entrants warrant that their research findings are their own original work and, as such, they are the sole and exclusive owner and rights holder of the submitted research and that they have the right to submit the research in the Contest and grant all required licenses, permissions and transfers. By submitting an Entry, you agree that Sponsor and its parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, agents, professional advisors, advertising and promotional agencies, and the respective directors, officers, and employees thereof, shall not have any obligation, liability or responsibility for: (i) lost, late, incomplete, illegible, unintelligible, damaged, garbled, or misdirected entries, prize claims, notifications, or other communications; (ii) any technical errors or malfunctions that may occur; (iii) any condition caused by events beyond Sponsor's control that may cause the Contest to be delayed, disrupted or corrupted; (iv) any error in any materials associated with the Contest; and (vi) any

damages or losses of any kind resulting from participation in the Contest, accessing, transmitting, uploading or downloading data in connection with the Contest, or acceptance, possession or use of any prize.

- 15) **DISQUALIFICATION:** Any false information provided within the context of the Contest by any entrant or non-compliance with these Rules, as determined by Sponsor in its sole discretion, will result in the immediate disqualification of the entrant from the Contest.
- 16) **RIGHT TO CANCEL, MODIFY OR DISQUALIFY.** If for any reason the Contest is not capable of running as planned, including infection by computer virus, bugs, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures, or any other causes which corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity, or proper conduct of the Contest, GE Energy reserves the right at its sole discretion to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the Contest, and to select a winner from among entries not affected by the corruption, if any. GE Energy further reserves the right to disqualify any entrant who tampers with the submission process or any other part of the Contest. Sponsor reserves the right not to select a winner or award the prize if Sponsor does not receive any eligible or qualified entries, in its sole discretion.
- 17) **NOT AN OFFER OR CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT:** Under no circumstances shall the submission of a research paper into the Contest, the awarding of a prize, or anything in these Rules be construed as an offer or contract of employment with either GE Energy, or any other person or entity. You acknowledge that you have submitted your Entry voluntarily and not in confidence or in trust. You acknowledge that no confidential, fiduciary, agency or other relationship or implied-in-fact contract now exists between you and GE Energy and that no such relationship is established by your submission of research in this Contest.
- 18) **FORUM AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION:** These Rules shall be governed by, subject to, and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia, United States of America, excluding all conflict of law rules. If any provision(s) of these Rules are held to be invalid or unenforceable, all remaining provisions hereof will remain in full force and effect. Except where prohibited by law, entrants agree that: (a) any and all disputes, claims, and causes of action arising out of or connected with these Official Rules or this Contest (and/or the rights and obligations of Sponsor and/or participant in conjunction therewith) (collectively, "Disputes") shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action and shall be brought exclusively in a state or federal court sitting in Atlanta, Georgia; (b) any and all claims, judgments and awards shall be limited to actual out-of-pocket costs incurred, including costs associated with participating in this Contest but in no event attorneys' fees; (c) under no circumstances will entrant be permitted to obtain awards for, and entrant hereby waives all rights to claim, punitive, incidental and consequential damages and any other damages, other than for actual out-of-pocket expenses, and any and all rights to have damages multiplied or otherwise increased; and (D) **THEY WAIVE AND HEREBY DO WAIVE THEIR RIGHT TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY SUCH ACTION.**
- 19) **ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS:** Sponsor assumes no responsibility for network, hardware, software, telephone, cable or other technical failures; or for incomplete, damaged,

misdirected, illegible, garbled or lost e-mail or mail communications. Sponsor is not responsible for any typographical or other error in the printing of the offer, administration of the Contest or in the announcement of the prizes. In the event of a dispute as to the identity of entrant(s), Sponsor may disqualify the Entry, in its sole discretion.

20) WINNER'S LIST: A notice of the winning Entry will be posted on the Contest Website upon confirmation of the winner.

Any questions about the Contest should be directed to the competition director Kim Park ([kim.park@ge.com](mailto:kim.park@ge.com)).