SDA FELLOWS BEST PRACTICES A/E/C COMPETITION

PROGRAM

SDA Fellows propose to hold a panel discussion on Best Practices at EDSymposium19 in Spokane, WA in May 2019. This will consist of a three-firm panel, each one discussing a Best Practice at their firm. Each member of the panel will have 15-20 minutes to present and 5 minutes of questions. The purpose of this panel is to tap into the plethora of best practices that have been developed at SDA member firms over the years. These may be technical: e.g., Huckabee's employee visit to all of their projects to promote team spirit, or Clark Nexsen's weekly reports from PM to clients that improve communications with clients, reduce misunderstandings, and move the management ball down the field. They may also be administrative, e.g., a Deltek work flow or user-defined info center for firm licenses, HR practice like WSP's administrative certification program, or marketing, like the adaptation of a new CRM system. Any of the five SDA PEGs or a technical subject may be chosen. The submittal must show the improvement in practice management gained from the practice.

The intent of this program is to encourage SDA members to share their knowledge and to further develop the resources, expert knowledge, and professionalism of all SDA members and the A/E/C industry in general.

This contest is open to any SDA member in good standing. Practices should be of topical interest to the A/E/C industry.

AWARD

A maximum of three best practices will be selected for this award. All winners will present their submittals at EDS19. The winning submittals will each receive $200 towards their EDS19 registration to present their submittal. The practice will be submitted to several A/E/C best practice websites for further recognition by the A/E/C community.

In the event no submittal, as determined by the judges, is selected, no award will be given.

SCHEDULE

December 12, 2018 ....SDA announces the competition
January 11, 2018 ....Electronic abstracts submitted to Executive Director
January 25, 2019 ....Judges' Final Decision
January 31, 2019……………Announcement of winners
EDS19 ....Presentation

SCORING

The following criteria will be evaluated. The abstracts will then be ranked, and the three abstracts with the highest ranking will be declared the winners of the competition.

◊   Overall quality

◊ Applicability (value of topic to enhancing design-industry best practices and/or practice management)
◊ Logic (discussion and data appropriately used to support conclusion)
◊ Completeness (use of examples)

JUDGES

◊ Six-judge panel will consist of the current SDA Fellows. Fellows may enter the competition.

ABSTRACT FORMAT

◊ The Best Practice topic is the author's choice, as long as it relates to project or business management in an A/E/C firm.
◊ The Best Practice must address a topical issue of interest to the A/E/C industry, and be based on research and experience, using examples specific to the A/E/C design industry.
◊ The member must complete and submit the Best Practice Competition Cover Page along with the Best Practice abstract.
◊ The abstract must be submitted as a *.pdf file.
◊ The abstract must be no longer than three pages in length but may include additional images.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENTERING SDA BEST PRACTICES COMPETITION

◊ The submittal must be made by a current SDA member in good standing, but the author/presenter may be anyone in the member's firm (maximum of two presenters from each firm).

SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRY

◊ The deadline for submitting the electronic files (the cover page and the paper) is January 11, 2019. Any submissions received after that date will not be accepted.

◊ Submit the files to the Executive Director, Stephanie Kirschner at admin@sdanational.org.

◊ If you have questions on the program or process, contact Stephanie Kirschner at admin@sdanational.org or 513.268.5302.

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A/E/C COMPETITION**

Cover Page

Applicant

Firm: _____

Presenters:

1. _____

2. _____

Presentation Abstract

(250-word summary of the best practice). Total submittal should not exceed 3 pages and should include:

- ✓ Problem or Needed Improvement that was identified
- ✓ Description of the Best Practice
- ✓ How this Best Practice improved the specific identified problem and the overall management of the firm. This may be quantitative, e.g., % increase in profitability, or descriptive, e.g., increase in client satisfaction, increase in employee satisfaction with specific examples.

Insert your Abstract here.

Presentation

All presentations will be 15-20 minutes with 5 minutes of Q&A.

Your Presentation Format will be:

☐ Verbal presentation only

☐ Powerpoint® (AV needed? Please specify)

Electronic Submittal

Stephanie Kirschner, Executive Director
SDA
admin@sdanational.org
NLT January 11, 2019