Team Deadline Dates Approaching Quickly!

Final Date to Register a Team ➔ **Monday, April 25** is the last day to get the Entry Form into Splash Headquarters for the 2016 Splash. To register your team, you need to go to the website (www.solarsplash.com) to find the Entry Form for the competition. ***April 25 is also the time the Entry Fee is supposed to be paid; so if your registered team has not sent in the Entry Fee, please do so by the 25th.

Technical Report due by 5pm EDT, Monday, May 9 ➔ The Technical Report is to be electronically submitted to Splash Headquarters no later than **5 pm EDT, Monday, May 9**.
***A "pdf" version of your Technical Report should be emailed to **hq@solarsplash.com**.

➔The format and rules for writing the Technical Report are accessed via the Solar Splash website (www.solarsplash.com) menu by clicking first "Competition Details", then the 'Technical Report' tab, and then clicking 'Solar Splash Technical Report Guidelines'.

➔ Remember that the top five Technical Reports are presented for your inspection on the Splash website (www.solarsplash.com). These are extremely good "how to" examples of what it takes to write a highly scored technical report.

Reminder #1 ➔Major Revisions Were Made Last Year to the Required Technical Report Format

Three major revisions were implemented last year in the format for your Technical Report. These revisions include:

(1) putting more grading weight on the Executive Summary;
(2) the main body of the report, limited to 20 pages, will now be organized by "subsystem reporting", emphasizing your new designs being implemented this current year; and
(3) a fourth required Appendix D is to be added which provides your team roster and limited information on each team member.

➔ The complete details of the Technical Report's required format can be accessed via the Solar Splash website (www.solarsplash.com) menu by clicking 'Technical Report' and then clicking 'Solar Splash Technical Report Guidelines'.

Reminder #2 ➔ Major Rule Change Occurred in 2014 Which Could Cause Team "Energy Management" Changes!

A major Rule change was made in 2014. This Rule change is being called the "only two sets of batteries" rule (Rule 7.4.1), which means that only two sets (instead of the previous four sets) of lead-acid batteries will be allowed. The weight limit for each of the two sets will be the previous heavier (Sprint) value of 100 pounds/45.5 kilograms per set. As before, only one set of batteries will be allowed in any run during any event.

"Dolly" Needed for Your Boat This Year

Due to the steep slope on the hill from the paddocks to the docks, heavy transport trailers will not be allowed to be used by teams to transport their boats down and up the hill. These heavy trailers pose a danger to the people trying to manage the trailer-plus-boat weight, and a hazard to those on and around the docks if the trailer 'gets loose'. As has been the case in past Splashes, the solution is for each team to obtain or build a dolly, a light-weight trailer, which can be more easily handled down and up the hill. Most teams already use a dolly, and various dolly designs can be seen by viewing the 'team pictures' taken at previous Splash competitions.

Dayton Hotel Information for the 2016 Splash Teams

As always, you can find your own lodging via the internet, checking prices and locations using Expedia, Travelocity, etc. These reservations usually allow very liberal cancellation and change policies. Solar Splash has and is investigating getting 'special deals' with some hotels, and these are and will be reported on the website as they are arranged.

See the Splash website to see the location of Eastwood Park and Lake, the site of Solar Splash 2016. This will allow you to see where a particular hotel you may find is located relative to the Splash site.

Solar Splash Schedule of Major Events and Activities

An updated listing of the Splash major activities and events in terms of times and days can be found as Rule 10 in the Rule Book. All teams are expected to be aware of the stated times, places, and specific events and activities.