



June 5-9, 2018
Springfield, Ohio

www.solarsplash.com

News of **UPS Battery Center SOLAR SPLASH® 2018**

Volume 25 - Number 2 - December 2017

25th Solar Splash Anniversary Year!

New Prime Sponsor!

Solar Splash is pleased to announce that UPS Battery Center Ltd. is the Prime Sponsor for the 2018 event! The company joined the Solar Splash team as a Silver Sponsor in 2017, but stepped in this year to replace long-time Prime Sponsor IEEE-PELS. They are looking to talk to some of the teams and perhaps even follow a team or two as they work on their boats throughout the year, so your team may get a call or email from someone at UPS Battery Center. Meanwhile, you can check out their website at <https://www.upsbatterycenter.com/> and keep an eye on their blog page for information about Solar Splash.

In addition to sponsoring the event, the UPS Battery Center is also offering a 20% discount on batteries to Solar Splash teams. Enter discount code “Solar Splash” in the shopping cart and the 20% will be deducted from your total.

25 Teams for the 25th Anniversary

In the first 2018 Newsletter we announced our goal of at least 25 entries for the 25th anniversary competition. As of the writing of this Newsletter, we 19 teams that are making plans to compete, so we are well on our way to 25! If your team is not listed at solarsplash.com/2018-teams/ and you are planning to compete in 2018, please drop us a line and let us know.

Splash Headquarters' Address and Contact Point is:

Dr. Jeffrey Morehouse
309 Newridge Road
Lexington, SC, USA 29072
tel: 803-920-9231 email: hq@solarsplash.com

NEW: Video Award

Each year, teams prepare a written report and a visual display to help tell a story about how their boat was created, improved, or otherwise readied for Solar Splash. As we prepare for the 25th annual Solar Splash competition, we invite each team to tell its story through video. **We are thus offering the very first Solar Splash Video Award.** Films should provide a short and exciting narrative about the team formation, the boat construction, water trials, or whatever the team feels best represents their efforts. Styles may differ, but these videos may include team member interviews, drone footage, stop motion techniques, candid moments, and live video of past events.

Submitting a video for award consideration is optional. However, if you do create a video, you are welcome to use it as part of your team's visual display.

To Enter your team for the Video Award, please prepare a video meeting these criteria:

- Is at least 1 minute but no longer than 4 minutes
- Contains no profanity or inappropriate video content
- Does not violate copyright; be careful with background music
- Promoting your school and acknowledging your team's sponsors is fine, but do not make your video an overt advertisement

Upload your video to YouTube and send the link to Solar Splash Headquarters at hq@solarsplash.com. The video link must be received by **5 pm Eastern Time, Tuesday, May 29, 2018** to be considered for the award. The team judged to have the best video will receive the Award. Good Luck!

Innovation Award

Solar Splash gives many design awards each year that are determined by teams of judges at the event. The Innovation Award ***must be applied for***. This award is intended to reward the team with the most innovative development. Does your boat include a novel engineering creation? Whether it be a new propeller design, a new hull design, the development of a new drive system, or special features on the solar module, Solar Splash wants to know about it.

To apply for the Innovation Award, please prepare a narrative, not to exceed 250 words, that describes your team's best innovation this year. Include in your narrative:

- Description of the advancement
- Why the advancement is valuable, including quantifiable metrics if possible
- Brief story of how the team first came to imagine this advancement or see a need for it

Send the narrative in an email to hq@solarsplash.com. The narrative must be received by noon Eastern Daylight Time, Wednesday, June 6, 2018 (during the competition). The innovations will be validated and evaluated, and the team with the best innovation will receive the Innovation Award. Good Luck!

Top Five 2017 Technical Reports Available

The top 5 Technical Reports from the 2017 Splash are available for downloading by going to the “Technical Reports” link on the Splash website menu (www.solarsplash.com). Reading these reports and seeing the boats and equipment provides a wealth of technical information, plus they demonstrate how to structure a highly rated report!

Note: This year’s Technical Report will be due **Monday, May 7, 2018**.

Entry Form, Entry Fee, and Dates Reminder

The official 2018 Entry Form can be found on the Solar Splash website. The ‘early fee’ is \$750 if you get your Entry Form in by **Tuesday, January 16, 2018** but the entry fee increases to \$1000 if you enter after that date. The final cut-off date for entries is **Monday, April 23, 2018**. Again, getting the Entry Form to Headquarters is critical for meeting the dates, not when the check arrives! However, sending the Entry Form in “promises” that you will pay the fee – and the fee is “non-refundable” after the Entry Form has been submitted!

Major Dates/Deadlines for This Year:

Tuesday, January 16, 2018: Last date for “Early Registration” (getting the Entry Form in!) at the lower \$750 Entry Fee. After this date the Entry Fee is \$1000.

Monday, April 23, 2018: Last date for receipt of the Entry Form to register for Splash 2018.

Monday, May 7, 2018: Last date to submit the “Technical Report” without a points penalty.

Tuesday, May 29, 2018: Video Award submissions due (post to YouTube and email link to hq@solarsplash.com).

Tuesday, June 5, 2018: First day of the Competition. Skippers must be onsite for the Swim Test by 2:00 pm.

Wednesday, June 6, 2018: Innovation Award applications due (email to hq@solarsplash.com).