

# Invention Judging Sheet

## Suggested Questions:

- What problem does this invention solve?
- How does it solve the problem?
- Why is this a good solution?
- Explain how it works
- What was your biggest problem while working on the invention?
- Did you have to change your original idea in any way?
- Is there anything else you could do to improve it?
- What did you do to make sure that your invention was original?

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
<b>Does the product meet a need?</b>	The product provides a unique solution to a need. It reflects a high level of creativity.			The product provides a good answer to a need.			The product will somewhat satisfy a need.			

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
<b>How effectively does the student evaluate whether the invention does what it is supposed to do?</b>	The student gives a thorough and accurate explanation of the effectiveness of the invention, also discussing its shortcomings and suggesting ways to improve it.			The student gives a complete and accurate explanation of the invention's ability to meet its intended purpose.			The student gives a general explanation of the purpose of the invention and how it works.			

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
<b>How well does the student explain the process?</b>	The student describes the design process, fully explaining why and how decisions were made.			The student clearly explains what was done and how it was done.			The student JUST provides answers to questions about the invention.			

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
<b>Is the product user-friendly?</b>	Operation is self-explanatory and easy.			A new user can operate the product with some instruction.			A new user requires a lot of additional explanation in order to operate the product.			

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
<b>Is the product useful and perhaps even marketable?</b>	The product's concept meets the need and it is efficient, functional and cost-effective.			The product's concept is appropriate and will work, with modification.			The product's concept is unworkable as envisioned.			

TOTAL SCORE \_\_\_\_\_ / 50

# Exhibition Rules

**Rule 1** One entry form must be filled out online for each project. [Online Registration](#) is required, S/I/T will not accept paper applications.

**Rule 2** Students may submit projects individually or with one partner. No student may submit more than one project.

**Rule 3** Students are responsible for all aspects of the development of their entries.

**Rule 4** Students must bring their own project, set it up, remain with it throughout the judging and remove it at the end of the day.

**Rule 5** Students must be prepared to answer judges questions about the content and development of their projects. Students are not allowed to give a formal narrative in response to the questions.

**Rule 6** Students must supply all equipment, including extension cords. Outlets will be provided ONLY if requested on the entry form.

**Rule 7** A label must be attached to the bottom or back of each project with the student's name, telephone number, and school name.

**Rule 8** Commercially prepared kits or models cannot constitute a major portion of the project.

**Rule 9** Students are solely responsible for the security and safety of their equipment.

**Rule 10** Table exhibits only. Overall project size must be no more than 27 inches wide, 27 inches deep and 4 feet high. The entire project, including charts, labels, etc. must fit in this space. There will be a 20 POINT DEDUCTION for any project which exceeds these dimensions.

**Rule 11** Some display tables are against a wall, but most are not. Therefore, students who are assigned to tables against a wall may not use the wall for display purposes.

**Rule 12** Animals that can bite will not be allowed. All live animal exhibits require prior written approval from the S/I/T Committee.

**Rule 13** No hazardous, toxic or flammable materials are to be used. No candles, bunsen burners or electrical heating devices (i.e., hot plates) are allowed.

**Rule 14** Standard laboratory safety rules must be observed.

**Rule 15** Students doing projects that involve data gathered from human medical subjects must have a mentor. If the project involves the assessment of, or a comparison among, medical treatments, that mentor should be a physician. The mentor's name should be clearly displayed on the project with a note certifying that s/he had reviewed ethical issues involved in the project with the student, and that s/he stands behind the accuracy of the information presented. The name and credentials of the mentor must be submitted with the application form.

**Rule 16** If partners are in different grade levels, the project will be judged in the grade category of the highest grade level. For example, if Student #1 is in grade 5, and Student #2 is in grade 6, the project will be judged in the 6th grade category.

**Rule 17** Registration is not complete until every section of the application form has been filled in and the registration fee is received.