

## 2021 MINNESOTA RUBBER & PLASTICS YOUNG INNOVATORS CONTEST COMPLETE OFFICIAL RULES

**NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING.** INTERNET ACCESS IS REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE.

**SUBMISSION PERIOD:** Submissions may be submitted starting 8:00 am Central Time (CT) November 1, 2021 and ending on December 31, 2021 at 11:59 pm CT (“Submission Period”). Notification of the winning entry will be announced no later than March 1, 2022. Winner(s) must acknowledge and accept their prize within 10 days of notification by MN Rubber & Plastics, or the prize will be forfeited and another winner will be selected. The Submission Period is subject to change at Sponsor’s discretion if for any unforeseen reason the Contest cannot be conducted as planned. Open only to residents within a 150 mile radius of the MN Rubber & Plastics headquarters at 1100 Xenium Lane N., Plymouth, MN, 55441, who, at the time of entry, are in grades 6-8. Void where prohibited or restricted by law. Contest is subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Persons who are **not** eligible to participate or win a prize: persons in the immediate family of, or persons living in the same household as any person employed by Minnesota Rubber & Plastics. For the purpose of this contest “immediate family members” are defined as mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, brother, and/or sister.

Multiple students and/or groups from the same school may submit an innovation, but each student may only submit one innovation individually or as part of a group no larger than 8 individuals. Participants must all be in grades 6 through 8, and each entry is required to have an adult “sponsor,” over the age of 18, such as a parent, teacher, or advisor to oversee the submission process. Participant(s) must reside in Minnesota and arrange their own transportation to the Minnesota Rubber & Plastics Innovation Center in Plymouth, MN.

**HOW TO ENTER:** During the submission period, participants can enter the contest by submitting their innovative idea at [www.mnrubber.com/innovation-contest/](http://www.mnrubber.com/innovation-contest/). Each submission must answer the following questions in a 500-1,000 word essay:

- What problem are you trying to solve related to:
  - Environmental sustainability
  - Water quality
  - Transportation efficiency
  - Quality of healthcare
- What is your idea?
- How are you proposing to address this challenge?
- What measurable impact(s) do you think your innovation could have?
- What would you want to learn if you could be an engineer for a day?

In addition, submissions must include a hand-drawn sketch or computer-generated image of the innovation and an explanation of how it could work.

**ENTRY SPECIFICS:** Entries must be complete, compliant, submitted via the webpage communicated, and received by Sponsor within the Submission Period. Incomplete, invalid, unsuitable, or otherwise noncompliant Entries (as determined in Sponsor’s sole and absolute discretion) will not be eligible. If, upon review, Sponsor (or its authorized representative) is unable to determine that an Entry/Participant is eligible, compliant, or reasonably suspects that

it/he/she is not eligible or compliant in whole or in part, the Entry as a whole may be disqualified. Proof that an Entry was uploaded does not constitute proof or evidence that it was received within the Nomination Period or eligible for the contest. Entries will not be acknowledged or returned. Entries submitted via any other entry method than stated herein will not be accepted. Sponsor reserves the absolute right to disqualify and/or immediately remove any Entry/Participant in whole or in part for any reason within its sole and absolute discretion. Without limiting the foregoing, Entries will be disqualified if Sponsor believes the Entry is not in the spirit of the Promotion, is not compliant herewith, or will have a detrimental impact on any of Sponsor's brand, reputation, products or services. Furthermore, if an Entry, for any reason whatsoever, garners or contains comments that are unpleasant, distasteful, nasty or otherwise inappropriate for the Sponsor community, Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify Entry/Participant and remove any such Entry. In the event of a dispute as to the identity of an online Participant, the authorized account holder of the email address used in connection with the Entry will be deemed to be the Participant, provided eligible. Promotion Entities assume no responsibility for lost, late, incomplete, inaccurate, undelivered, delayed, destroyed, damaged, or misdirected Entries (in whole or in part); or for any equipment, computer, telephone, device, network, platform, app, electronic, hardware or software malfunctions, failures, connections, or (un)availability, or garbled, corrupt, or jumbled transmissions; nor service provider, Internet, website, user accessibility or availability, incompatibility, traffic congestion, unauthorized human intervention or any error (human or not), or the incorrect or inaccurate capture of Entry or other information, nor for the failure to capture or display any such information. Normal internet access and device usage charges imposed by your mobile plan and/or on-line service may apply to Entry via mobile device. For those Participants entering with a mobile device: Promotion may not be available via all mobile carriers. Messaging & data rates apply to internet access via mobile devices. Other charges may apply; check your mobile plan for rates/details. Consent is not a condition of purchase.

The intellectual property rights of the innovation will remain with the submitting student or team; i.e. by submitting to the Young Innovators contest, the submitting student or team keeps the intellectual property rights but you grant Minnesota Rubber & Plastics the right to advertise, publish and print your design in collateral and other applications (see Publicity Rights section on page 4).

**REPRESENTATIONS ABOUT YOUR ENTRY:** By submitting an Entry, Participants represent, warrant and covenant (and agree to release and indemnify Promotion Entities from same) that their Entry submitted and all content therein is the original creation of the Participant and has not been copied in whole or in part from any other work, and is the sole and exclusive property of the Participant (or Participant has the full consent to submit it herein for all uses contemplated), does not contain, depict, condone, encourage or promote activities or content prohibited by these Rules, and any individuals mentioned, featured in, or who have worked on the Entry, in whole or in part, in any manner have given Participant their express written consent to submission of Entry into this Promotion and the use contemplated. If requested by Sponsor, Participant shall provide evidence of the above in writing. Nothing herein shall be deemed an obligation of confidentiality. Participants understand and agree to assume the risk that their Entry and any element thereof may, in whole or in part, be identical or similar to any other Entry, that one Entry may regardless receive varying scores from the other Entry, and Participants shall release and hold Promotion Entities harmless from same.

By participating in this contest, you understand and agree that your entry is an original work of authorship and does not violate any third party's proprietary or intellectual property rights.

By participating in this contest, each participant fully and unconditionally agrees to be bound to and accepts these Official Rules, Terms of Use and Privacy Policy, and any additional terms and conditions specific to the Promotion communicated by Sponsor. By participating, Participants further agree to be bound to the decisions of the Sponsor (and its authorized representatives) which are final and binding in all matters. By submitting an Entry, Participants agree to be contacted by Sponsor with Promotion related communications.

**PRIVACY POLICY:** Information submitted with an entry is subject to the Privacy Policy stated on the Minnesota Rubber & Plastics website. Read the Privacy Policy here: <https://www.mnrubber.com/privacy-policy/>

**CONTEST DETAILS:** A total of one winning submission will be selected and will be chosen by a committee of judges from the Minnesota Rubber & Plastics leadership team. The submissions will be reviewed and the winner will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Creativity of the innovation
- Practicality of the innovation
- Potential positive impact of the innovation
- Quality of the submission

**SUBMISSION REVIEW:** A committee of judges from the Minnesota Rubber and Plastics leadership team will review submissions and select a winner based on the following criteria:

- **Creativity of the innovation**
  - Technology employed
  - Problem Solving Process Used (How does the solution match to the problem?)
  - Novelty of the solution
  - Creativity of the Technology employed
- **Practicality of the innovation**
  - Ease of Manufacture
  - Ease of Deployment / Distribution
  - Cost of Solution versus Benefit Costs
  - Technology Availability
- **Potential positive impact of the innovation**
- **Quality of the submission**
  - Technical analysis presented

**PRIZE INFORMATION:** The student or team submitting the winning idea will be invited to the new Minnesota Rubber & Plastics Innovation Center in Plymouth, MN to use the company's new state-of-the-art design and prototyping tools. Student(s) will experience being an "engineer for a day" and meet with top materials science, design and production engineers. Minnesota Rubber & Plastics will also donate \$2,500 of STEM supplies, selected by the winning student or team, to the school of the winning student or team, and will offer up to \$300 in reimbursement for travel costs associated with the Innovation Center visit. Travel costs can include fuel or vehicle rental.

**GENERAL CONDITIONS:** In the event of noncompliance, if a Participant or any Prize Recipient becomes noncompliant or ineligible, prize will be forfeited and (an) alternate Prize Recipient(s)

will be selected for the prize in accordance with the judging criteria herein. Sponsor bears no responsibility if any event, element or detail of the event or a prize is canceled, postponed or becomes unavailable for any reason. **BY PARTICIPATING, PARTICIPANTS AND PRIZE RECIPIENTS AGREE TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW TO RELEASE, DISCHARGE AND HOLD HARMLESS THE SPONSOR, OTHER PROMOTION ENTITIES, SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS, AND THEIR PARENT, AFFILIATES AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES, ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION AGENCIES, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS, REPRESENTATIVES AND AGENTS (“RELEASED PARTIES”) FROM AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL ALLEGED AND/OR ACTUAL CLAIMS, CAUSES OF ACTION, DEMANDS, LOSSES, SETTLEMENTS (WHETHER OR NOT LITIGATION IS COMMENCED), LIABILITIES AND DAMAGES OF ANY KIND WHATSOEVER EXISTING NOW OR ARISING IN THE FUTURE (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, BODILY INJURY, PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH, DISABILITY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE, VIOLATION OF PROPRIETARY, PUBLICITY, PRIVACY OR ANY OTHER RIGHT), COSTS AND EXPENSES (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, REASONABLE ATTORNEYS’ FEES, COURT COSTS, SETTLEMENT AND DISBURSEMENTS) DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ARISING OUT OF USE OF THE ENTRY IN WHOLE OR IN PART, THE ACCEPTANCE, POSSESSION, USE OR MISUSE OF A PRIZE, PARTICIPATION IN ANY PROMOTION AND/OR PRIZE RELATED ACTIVITY, ACCESS TO THE WEBSITE, AND/OR OTHER PARTICIPATION IN THIS PROMOTION.** By entering and/or accepting a prize, Participants and Prize Recipients covenant to the fullest extent permitted by law not to sue any Released Party or cause them to be sued regarding any matter released above, and not to disaffirm, limit or rescind this release. A waiver by one or more of the Promotion Entities of any term in these Official Rules does not constitute a waiver of any other provision. Any provision adjudged to be invalid shall be struck from these Rules and the remainder shall continue in full force and effect.

**LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY:** Promotion Entities are not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate information, whether caused by website users, human error, tampering, hacking or by any of the equipment or programming associated with or utilized in the Promotion and assumes no responsibility for any error, omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operation or transmission, incompatibility, communications failure, theft, loss or destruction of Entries, nor for the failure to capture entry or other information. If, for any reason, the Promotion or any element thereof is not capable of running as planned by reason of, but not limited to, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical or other failures or errors, or any other causes similar or dissimilar which Sponsor deems, in its sole opinion, could corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity or proper conduct of this Promotion or any element thereof, Sponsor reserves the right at its sole discretion to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the Promotion or element thereof. Promotion Entities shall not be liable to Participants, Prize Recipients or any other person or entity for failure to execute the Promotion, or supply a prize or any part thereof, by reason of any act of God, any action(s), regulation(s) order(s) or request(s) by any governmental or quasi-governmental entity (whether or not the action(s), regulation(s), order(s) or request(s) prove(s) to be invalid), equipment failure, terrorist act, cyber-attack, earthquake, war, fire, flood, explosion, unusually severe weather, hurricane, embargo, labor dispute or strike (whether legal or illegal), labor or material shortage, transportation interruption of any kind, work slow-down, civil disturbance, insurrection, riot, cancellation or delay of any event, epidemic or pandemic, or any similar or dissimilar event beyond their reasonable control.

**IMPROPER CONDUCT:** Sponsor, in its sole discretion, may disqualify any entrant from participation in this Contest if entrant engages in any conduct Sponsor deems to be improper,

unfair, acting in an unsportsmanlike or disruptive manner, or acting with intent to annoy, abuse, threaten or harass any other person or otherwise adverse to the operation of the Contest.

**PUBLICITY RIGHTS:** By participating in the Promotion and/or accepting a Prize, Nominators, Participants and Prize Recipients as applicable grant (and agree to confirm that grant in writing) permission for Sponsor the perpetual right to use entry, name, likeness, image, voice, and statements for promotion, trade, commercial, and publicity purposes, at any time or times, in all media now known or hereafter discovered including television and the internet including Sponsor's social media platforms, worldwide, including but not limited to on the World Wide Web and Internet, without notice, review or approval and without additional compensation except where prohibited by law.

**DISPUTES/ARBITRATION:** THIS PROMOTION AND ALL ISSUES AND QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE CONSTRUCTION, VALIDITY, INTERPRETATION AND ENFORCEABILITY OF THESE OFFICIAL RULES, OR THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF PARTICIPANT OR SPONSOR IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROMOTION SHALL BE GOVERNED BY, AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH, THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE OF MINNESOTA WITHOUT RESPECT TO CONFLICT OF LAW DOCTRINES. As a condition of participating in this Promotion, to the fullest extent permitted by law, Participants agree that any and all disputes that cannot be resolved between the parties and causes of action arising out of or connected with this Promotion shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action or a jury trial, exclusively before a binding, neutral one person arbitration panel located in or near Minneapolis, MN. Under no circumstances will Participant be permitted to obtain awards for, and Participant hereby waives all rights to claim punitive, incidental, consequential, and any other damages (other than for actual out-of-pocket expenses) and any and all rights to have damages multiplied or otherwise increased.

**SPONSOR:** The sponsor of the campaign is Minnesota Rubber & Plastics. 1100 Xenium Lane North, Minneapolis, MN 55441.