



February 28, 2013

Greetings coaches and students,

There is a lot of **important information** in this message. Please ensure that everyone is prepared to compete in Moody's Mega Math Challenge this weekend by double-checking the following items:

*All times listed (for download, upload, and hotline hours) are in your local time zone – the time zone you indicated upon registration, either Eastern or Central.

1. Parental/Guardian Consent

We have notified students about missing forms and are allowing the opportunity to continue to send them to us without penalty. If you have not yet submitted the parental consent forms (http://m3challenge.siam.org/pdf/pc_form_12.pdf) please do so IMMEDIATELY. **You are still eligible to participate, but must have the forms in prior to the awarding of prizes.**

2. Your selected work day

Your team can download the problem beginning at 7:00 a.m. and must submit a solution by 9:00 p.m. that evening.

3. Login credentials

Your team ID # and password were sent to you at the time of registration. Teams must login to access the problem on the Challenge website at <http://m3challenge.siam.org/login/login.php>. If you have forgotten or misplaced your password please contact M³ headquarters (m3challenge@siam.org) to have it reset and sent to you via email.

If a team calls M³ Headquarters during Challenge weekend hotline hours, a valid e-mail address is necessary to verify the identity of the caller. Teams without valid student email addresses may be at a disadvantage if they need help. Please send any changes to registration data to m3challenge@siam.org.

4. Necessary software for handling the problem and solution

- a. A PDF reader – to download and read the problem. Adobe Acrobat is common; however, any PDF reader can be used to view the problem.
- b. Your solution paper can be submitted **only** in Microsoft Word 97 or newer, or as a PDF.

5. Upload your submission

The deadline to upload your solution paper is 9:00 p.m. – NO EXCEPTIONS. Even a partial solution can—and should—be submitted for consideration by the judges! Creativity and originality are highly-valued components of a winning solution, along with good quantitative and qualitative analysis.

Teams can upload their solution paper any number of times on their chosen Challenge day; however, each upload **completely overwrites** any previous upload. Therefore, **the last upload made before the 9:00 p.m. deadline** is the **complete and final** solution paper of record. Any previous uploads will have been deleted. It is a good idea to upload a solution paper in semi-final form as the deadline approaches to make sure a solution paper has been submitted in the most final form possible prior to the deadline. While logged in, you will be able to view your most recent upload.

6. Official Rules and Guidelines

Students and coaches should **review the rules and guidelines** at <http://m3challenge.siam.org/participate/rules/> prior to Challenge weekend to avoid unnecessary mistakes. Keep in mind that although coaches are permitted (not required) to be in the proximity of teams as they work, they are **prohibited** from providing any help. Please also be aware of the most common rule violation: putting identifying marks—names, addresses, etc.—on the solution paper. Provide only your team ID # to identify your paper to ensure that judging is blind.

7. Review “The Problem” page

Past problems, outstanding solutions, and judge perspectives can help acclimate teams to what will be expected of them during the Challenge. Visit <http://m3challenge.siam.org/problem/>.

8. Provide citations

Teams are expected to provide citations to original source materials. No particular citation style is required, but citations must be consistent.

9. In the case of a team member no-show

If there are any changes in your team’s composition (a member does not show, for example), you may still compete as long as you have at least three qualified team members (juniors or seniors from your high school) present on your Challenge day. We do ask that you inform us via email of changes on the Monday following the Challenge.

10. Capture your experience

Take pictures or videos as you work this year, and send them in! You might find them on the M3 Challenge website or in related print materials.

11. Having problems? Email is the best way to contact us – m3challenge@siam.org

If you are experiencing password, download, upload or other technical problems, you can email questions or even your complete paper prior to the deadline for official submission. Emailing your submission should be the last resort if upload is problematic, and must be sent before the deadline.

If you must call, during Challenge weekend only:

Technical Support Hotline – Phone: (267)350-6349 – will only be staffed during the following hours: 6:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. during Challenge weekend.

Instructions are also available on the website for teams having technical issues. See the "Contact Us" page at <http://m3challenge.siam.org/contact/>.

12. Important disclaimer for teams from M3 Challenge HQ

Moody's Mega Math Challenge, SIAM, and The Moody's Foundation are not responsible for local weather conditions, power or Internet outages, or any other situation or circumstance that would prevent a team from fully participating in the Challenge, including, for example, by preventing the submission of a paper on their selected Challenge Day. No accommodations can be made for teams if such unfortunate circumstances were to occur at any time during the Challenge.

13. Remember the spirit of the Challenge

Any attempt by students to look for help outside of their team members, via any media, is prohibited and will result in disqualification.

Good luck in the Challenge this weekend!

M³ Challenge Headquarters

<http://m3challenge.siam.org>

Phone 267-350-6388

Fax 215-525-2756

E-mail m3challenge@siam.org

Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics

3600 Market Street, 6th Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19104