

2014 HTComp Regulations

Article 1 - Overview

The 2014 Health Technology and Telemedicine Competition Award (“HTComp”) is an international contest for young entrepreneurs and start-up firms focusing on new innovative ideas in the field of health IT and telemedicine. The competition is open to teams with members of an average age of 35 years. HTComp assigns cash prizes to the best ideas expressed in the form of business plans.

Article 2 - Goals and guiding principles

The goal of HTComp is support research and technological innovation with special reference to health IT and telemedicine. HTComp disseminates the culture of business and supports young innovators. This award focuses on outstanding ideas based on technological innovation and aiming to create new enterprises.

Article 3 - Criteria for admissions

HTComp is open to teams of no less than two individuals whose average age is 35 years at October 1, 2014. Each team indicates a project leader and an e-mail address to receive all communications from the organizers. Participants must submit a highly innovative business idea based on scientific research in the areas of health IT or telemedicine, regardless of its stage of development, as long as it is the result of the original work of a single person or a team. Companies may also participate provided they are not established before January 1, 2014. The HTComp Scientific Committee reserves the right to exclude ideas deemed not consistent with the objectives and spirit of the initiative.

Article 4 - How to submit the applications

Applications must be submitted in English to the organizational committee at HTComp@upmc.it no later than midnight on September 22, 2014. Applications must include (in English):

1. Title of project
2. Name and date of birth of project leader
3. e-mail for notifications
4. Name and date of birth of team members

Applications must include an introduction to the project drafted in English according to the following template. Applications submitted without this presentation or using a different template shall be excluded at the sole discretion of the Technical and Scientific Committee (TSC).

1. Title (max 300 keystrokes including spaces)
This section must include project title, brief acronym, and a very brief project description.
2. Description of idea (max 3,000 characters including spaces)
This section must include the project idea. The description of the project idea should include the issue that the project intends to address, the target group, and the resources required. In addition to the 3,000 characters, illustrations, pictures, screenshots or other means may also be included to better illustrate the idea. All additional elements (illustrations, pictures, screenshots, etc.) must be attached to the project introduction document.
3. Technological background (max 2,000 characters including spaces)
This section must describe the technology that the team intends to use and the technological background. HTComp is seeking new innovative ideas. If the project idea uses intellectual propriety or patents (patents, trademarks, etc.) the application form will need to clearly state who owns the intellectual property, what entitles its use, and under what conditions.
4. Market of reference (max 3,000 characters including spaces)

This section shall include a description of the targeted market and the characteristics of the latter. The size, trend, and segments of the market addressed by the project should also be clearly stated alongside the market actors and their strengths and weaknesses.

5. Originality and differentiation (max 1,000 characters including spaces)
The project idea must be innovative and different from those already present on the market. This section must indicate how the idea differs from the ones currently available on the market and why it is unique and different.
6. Project status (max 2,000 characters including spaces)
This section must describe the project's status, if a company was set up or if a business incubator involved. This section should also specify if the idea has already received an award or if funds were obtained to develop the business. Also, please state if the product already exists and is ready for the market, or indicate the stage of development of the product/service: Sketch Idea/Mock-up/Prototype, Beta product/(Nearly) Market-ready.
7. Project team (max 1,500 characters including spaces)
This section must describe the project team and include the names, birth dates, professional and academic background of all participants, and the current or planned contribution of each team member. Also, please state if the team is complete or if the plan is to add new participants; indicate the team's strengths.
8. Business model and Business plan (max 3,000 characters including space)
This section must describe the business model that will be adopted. Also, indicate the full business plan including the economic and financial forecasts. Special attention should be paid to describe how the project will grow, the progressive steps to reach the market, and the goals the team intends to accomplish during the first year.

Article 5 - Organs and responsibilities

In order to ensure the HTComp goals are accomplished and that operations are managed appropriately the following are appointed: coordinator, technical and scientific committee, organizing committee.

Coordinator

Appointed by the organizing committee of the European Telemedicine Conference (ETC) and a member of the TSC. All his/her activities are supported by the organizing committee.

Technical and Scientific Committee (TSC)

Includes members appointed by the coordinator and selected in the world of research, business, finance, and institutions. The most important decisional body of HTComp, the TSC defines strategic and operational guidelines.

Organizing committee

Includes staff selected on the basis of their organizational skills; supports the coordinator in all his/her activities.

Article 6 - Prizes

The top three ranking teams will present their projects in English at the ETC.

The first two ranking projects will be awarded € 5,000 and € 2,500, respectively, and will have the possibility to visit the UPMC Technological Development Center (TDC) and the Center for Connected Medicine (CCM) in Pittsburgh, PA., and receive feedback on their projects. The third ranking project will receive a certification.

Article 7 - Phases of HTComp

HTComp includes a preliminary promotional/dissemination phase and a proposal review phase.

Preliminary phase

The preliminary phase takes place in August and September 2014 and its goal is to promote HTComp advertising the award across various media. The award will also be promoted by the ETC partners.

Application submission and selection

Participants are required to submit applications using the appropriate forms filled out in English before September 22, 2014.

The TSC reviews and evaluates the business ideas and ranks the top three in full autonomy and discretion using as main criteria the originality, the innovation, and the possibility of economical implementation. The authors of the best three ideas will be invited to present their projects at ETC.

On the basis of the quality and quantity of business ideas submitted, the TSC may decide to increase the number of teams invited to present their projects at the ETC. Results will be notified during a ceremony that will take place at the ETC in Rome on October 7-8, 2014.

Article 8 - Awarding

In order to receive their prizes the HTComp winners will need to set up a company by December 31, 2014. Prizes will be delivered in the form of grants to the companies established by the winning teams or already existing, after submission of a certificate of registration to the Register of Companies or similar title for foreign countries no later than December 31, 2014, and will be subject to 4% withholding.

The winning team will submit a report by December 31, 2015 on the actual use of the grants received.

Article 9 - Privacy

All members of the HTComp bodies guarantee maximum confidentiality of the information provided by participants, particularly regarding entrepreneurial ideas expressed as business ideas and business plans. No information on business ideas will be released without prior consent by their authors.

Article 10 - Validity

These regulations are valid and effective for the 2014 edition of the HTComp. Only ETC is entitled to the interpretation of these regulations.

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