



2025 ASC Region 2 Competition Open Graduate Competition Pre-Problem Statement Sponsored by DPR Construction

Introduction

Thank You!

Thank you for competing and taking on the challenge of educating yourself in this unique way. DPR is excited to sponsor the Open Graduate Competition problem at the 2025 ASC Region 2 Student Competition. As leaders of your student groups today, you have set your paths to become the Construction Industry's leading members of tomorrow. We hope to challenge your team's ability to leverage academic knowledge, intuition, problem-solving skills, and your ability to have fun in a high intensity environment.

DPR's Culture and Project Approach

DPR Construction was founded in 1990 by Doug Woods, Peter Nosler and Ron Davidowski, the D, the P and the R, who set out to develop a company that cultivates an entrepreneurial, open-office environment based on a well-defined purpose, "We Exist to Build Great Things", great relationships, great teams, great buildings, and great people. DPR's culture revolves around our Core Values:

INTEGRITY. We conduct all business with the highest standards of honesty and fairness; we can be trusted.

ENJOYMENT. We believe work should be fun and intrinsically satisfying; if we are not enjoying ourselves, we are doing something wrong.

UNIQUENESS. We must be different from and more progressive than all other construction companies; we stand for something.

EVER FORWARD. We believe in continual self-initiated change, improvement, learning and the advancement of standards for their own sake.

We would encourage each of you to read more at: <https://www.dpr.com/company/culture>.

Problem Introduction and Intent

- a. DPR has recently won an exciting new project! Your competition team will act as members of DPR Construction tasked with evaluating the project, preparing a plan for project execution, and evaluating the major risks associated. You are empowered to make key business and contractual decisions based on information at hand along with your expertise and assumptions. Your decisions will have significant consequences that impact the success of the project. The deals that you negotiate will map the road ahead but also expose you to possible roadblocks. You are expected to adapt to situations, engineer solutions, demonstrate DPR's Core Values, and develop a resolution to the project path that lies ahead. The intent of the Project Management problem is to ensure a project runs smoothly, which starts long before we ever break ground. By understanding and managing possible risks you will create a plan to prevent or address them ahead of time. Participants of the Project Management problem will complete the following deliverables throughout the competition:
 - i. Analyze an owner contract
 - ii. Create a construction budget through subcontractor selection and general conditions development
 - iii. Establish the project schedule – via production planning, milestones, or phasing
 - iv. Develop a plan for project execution that considers safety, access, logistics and other site constraints.



WE EXIST TO BUILD GREAT THINGS



v. Analyze and propose solutions for complex construction problems

b. Preparation – Teams should be prepared to complete the problem utilizing the following skills:

- | | |
|--|---|
| I. Business Ethics and Integrity | XII. Scope of Work Comparisons |
| II. Understanding Project Delivery Methods | XIII. Scheduling and Sequencing |
| III. Contract Evaluation | XIV. Site Logistics and Construction Preparation |
| IV. Project Risk Assessment | XV. Managing Schedule and Budget Risks with the client, designers and subcontractors. |
| V. Unforeseen Condition Liabilities | XVI. Creative Thinking and Problem Solving |
| VI. Scope of Work Qualifications | XVII. Drawing and Specification Review |
| VII. Schedule Impacts and Delays | XVIII. Material procurement and coordination |
| VIII. Contingency and Allowances | XIX. Communication Teamwork/Team Building |
| IX. Payment Terms | |
| X. Damages and Disputes | |
| XI. Subcontractor Bid Review | |

Problem Description

All projects have critical requirements that must be met. Budget and schedule objectives are obvious; however other criteria may include quality, sustainability, safety, reputation etc. To successfully execute the project, we not only need to meet these requirements, but we must prove that we can anticipate risks and plan for their appropriate mitigation.

As stated before, in this problem you will be challenged to create a “winning” deal that recognizes the accepted risk and creates a strategy to contain that risk while maintaining a satisfied client. Your team’s objective is determining how DPR can effectively plan this project through contract review, subcontractor bid validation, schedule development, analysis of self-perform opportunities, and establishing the right team and general conditions.

Outline of Events

a. Pre-Competition Activities

Your team will receive a template of a placemat DPR would like you to complete and send back to us (via email, continue reading for more information). These placemats will help our judging panel familiarize ourselves with your teams. Once you’ve created your team email (see below for more information on emails), you will receive the template.

Additionally, your team should familiarize themselves with the programs to be used during the competition, listed below.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| • Smart Sheet | • Bluebeam Take Off |
| • Microsoft Project | • On Screen Take Off |
| • Oracle P6 | • Gmail |

b. Competition Activities

When the problem commences you will be given the following primary contract documents (all documents will be distributed in electronic format):

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Project Specific Contracts | • Subcontract Assessment Form |
| • Contract Assessment Form | • General Conditions List |
| • Subcontractor Bids | • Drawings & Specifications |



WE EXIST TO BUILD GREAT THINGS



After reviewing these documents, you will need to understand the terms and conditions of the contract, the project parameters, set the project budget, and create a baseline schedule to optimize the project for success.

Your team's goal is to provide a comprehensive plan for the project with the information and criteria at hand, and work to defend your position with reasons developed during the competition. During the competition, the teams will manage scenarios that will impact budget, safety or schedule, for example:

- Scope Buy-out process: Review & Select Subcontractors
- Site Conditions & Set Up
- Project Planning and Phasing
- Resolution of Unforeseen Situations

Your team's performance will be measured on the following scales: Risk Assessment & Mitigation, Budget, Schedule and Reputation. These scales will be updated continually based on the decisions made. Upon completion of the project, you will be presenting a final contract, sub selection, schedule, and budget.

Sample Timeline (Actual timeline will vary; this information is provided to give the teams a better understanding of the activities throughout the day)

Thursday November 6th:

5:00 pm: Competition Kick Off/Distribute Problem Statement

Friday November 7th:

7:00 pm: Deliverables Due to DPR

Interview Competition- Greenville, SC: November 11th:

7:00 am: Presentation Materials Due

TBD am: Start of Presentations (20-minute presentations and 10-minute questions)

As Scheduled by ASC

Logistics

- Internet access is acceptable/required. However, communication with anyone outside of your team members and the DPR team is strictly prohibited and will result in disqualification from the competition.
- During the competition, please reference the subject of your email correspondence in the subject line to maintain clarity. Except for the scheduled meeting times, information from your team to the problem sponsor's team should be transmitted via email.
- All documents will be relayed to your team electronically.



Scoring

You will be graded on your ability to execute a plan that is not only profitable but makes your client a raving fan. It will also require you to balance competing goals like cost, schedule, quality, safety, sustainability, etc. Below, you can see an example of the scoring rubric used in previous years' problems. This year's problem will be graded similarly, but with minor variations made due to module difficulty.

- a. Contract Assessment – 10%
- b. Project Schedule of Values and Bid Leveling – 10%
- c. General Conditions Estimate – 10%
- d. Self-Perform Work Analysis- 10%
- e. Project Schedule – 10%
- f. Site Logistics/Safety – 10%
- g. Scenarios– 5%
- h. Risk Register and Mitigation Analysis – 10%
- i. Presentation – 25%

Questions?

Please contact Matt O'Malley at mattom@dpr.com.