**K-12 Student Outreach**

**6.7 Engineering Booth at 8th Grade Career Awareness Fair – St. Louis Section**

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| **1. Section, Branch** | St. Louis Section |  |
| **2. Section/Branch Size** | Large |  |
| **3. Project Contact** |  |
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| **4. Project Category** | K-12 Student Outreach |
| **5. Project Description** | For about 15 years, the St. Louis Section has participated in the St. Louis Metropolitan Career Awareness Fair for 8th Grade at America’s Center with an exhibitor’s booth. About 8,000 to 12,000 8th graders from St. Louis city and St. Louis County attend the fair. |
| **6. The Process**(What you did, When and How) | The St. Louis Section has a 10-foot by 20-foot booth at the fair. Three civil engineers in the booth answer questions from students and teachers about civil engineering and emphasize that civil engineers improve the quality of their lives. Photos illustrating civil engineering projects and civil engineering specialties are displayed along with other aides. Handouts are also available for students and teachers. About 150 students and teachers visit the booth. |
| **7. Those in Charge** (Committee, Task Committee, Etc.) | Career Guidance Committee. |
| **8. Time Frame**(When Started, When Completed) | The fair is held in two days in the spring. |
| **9. Success Factors**(The Parts that Worked Really Well) | We have an opportunity to speak with many students about civil engineering. |
| **10. Setback Factors**(The Parts that did Not Work Well) | Getting more students who are interested in talking about civil engineering. |
| **11. Creativity**(This is something off the wall that we did) |  |
| **12. Administration**(What was most Important?) | You need somebody to set up the contents in the civil engineering booth. This includes signs, booth size, electrical connections, handouts, etc. You have to contact the organizers about the need for equipment. Also, you need a certain number of volunteers to be in the booth. |
| **13. Follow-Up**(What was most important?) |  |
| **14. Recommendations**(What you should ALWAYS do with this project?) | Try to make the subject of civil engineering interesting with the use of computers, surveying instruments, plans, photos and handouts. |
| **15. Cautions**(What you should NEVER do with this project?) |  |
| **16. The Outcome** |  |
| **17. Ongoing Activity**(Would you do it again?) |  |
| **18. Speaker Contact Information** (person from your Region who would be willing to speak about the Best Practice) |  |
| Name |  |
| Address |  |
| Phone Number |  |
| Email |  |
| **19. Additional Comments** | This Best Practice includes the following attachments:* Fair brochures
* Instructions to fair exhibits
* Handouts provided to students
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