



MATE
MARINE
ADVANCED
TECHNOLOGY
EDUCATION
CENTER



2006 MATE Center/MTS ROV Committee ROV Competition for High School & College Students

www.marinetech.org/rov_competition/index.php



NASA Johnson Space Center's Neutral Buoyancy Lab

June 23 – 25, 2006



Travel, Housing, and Meal Information

This document contains important information about competition-related travel, housing, and meals. Review this information carefully.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THIS FORM IF YOU:

- Intend to use the shuttle bus services to/from the competition venues
- Plan to purchase kick-off reception and/or awards banquet tickets for parents, spouses, siblings, and/or cheerleaders traveling with the team

E-MAIL, FAX, OR MAIL THIS FORM BY MAY 27, 2006 TO:

Jill Zande, ROV Competition Coordinator

MATE Center

980 Fremont Street

Monterey, CA 93940

Ph: (831) 646-3082

Fax: (831) 646-3080

jzande@marinetech.org

School or School-Affiliated Organization: _____

Instructor(s): _____

Mentor(s): _____

TRAVEL STIPENDS

Each team competing in the international ROV competition will receive a \$1,000 travel stipend. This stipend may be used to offset travel costs (including shuttle transportation to/from the airport) for student team members and the lead instructor(s) and/or to offset housing costs.

You will receive your travel stipend once you have submitted your team's technical report. If additional funds become available, these will be equally distributed to teams during the competition.

Teams that are within driving distance (300 miles) to the NASA Johnson Space Center will receive roundtrip mileage reimbursement funds based on \$0.445 per mile.

AIRPORT INFORMATION

NASA Johnson Space Center's Neutral Buoyancy Lab (NBL) is actually located in Clear Lake, Texas, approximately 30 miles southeast of Houston. Nearby airports are Bush Intercontinental (IAH) and Houston Hobby (HOU). HOU is closer to the NBL and

competition hotels, but airline carriers and flights are limited; despite the distance, IAH may prove to be more economical. Please review your options and choose the best one for your budget.

SHUTTLES

Each team is responsible for arranging and covering the cost of shuttle transportation to/from the airport from/to the hotel.

The MATE Center is working with Clear Lake Shuttle Bus, Inc. on shuttle transportation to/from competition venues. Clear Lake Shuttle can also provide shuttle transportation to/from the airport. The following rates apply:

To/from Houston Hobby Airport (HOU)

\$20 per person + \$10 per each additional person (each way)

To/from Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH)

\$95 per person + \$15 per each additional person (each way)

NOTE: Estimated taxi fare to/from IAH is \$75 each way. Estimated taxi fare to/from HOU is \$28 each way.

You must call Clear Lake Shuttle Bus directly to make your own airport shuttle and payment arrangements. Discounts for large groups may be available. The contact information is:

**Clear Lake Shuttle Bus, Inc.
281-334-3873**

The MATE Center is providing (at no cost) shuttle transportation to/from the competition hotels (see below) from/to the competition venues.

My team WILL DEFINITELY MAKE USE OF THE SHUTTLE SERVICE PROVIDED BY MATE to/from the competition venues.

_____ Yes _____ No

HOUSING

The MATE Center has set aside blocks of rooms for competition participants at three hotels –HOMEWOOD SUITES, HAMPTON INN & SUITES, AND EXTENDED STAY AMERICA. These hotels are located close to each other on Bay Area Blvd. in Clear Lake, Texas (please visit www.mapquest.com for a map of the area).

The rooms have been set aside for Thursday, June 22nd, through Sunday, June 25th nights (i.e., checking in on the 22nd and checking out on the 26th).

YOUR TEAM IS RESPONSIBLE FOR COVERING THE COST OF YOUR HOUSING NEEDS. The nightly rate for any and all rooms is \$84 plus 15% tax (9%

state sales tax, 6% hotel tax). It is your responsibility to call one of the competition hotels (see contact information below) and reserve the rooms that you may need.

The nightly room rate also includes the following:

- ▼ A full, hot breakfast buffet or deluxe breakfast bar
- ▼ Free high-speed Internet access (Homewood Suites and Hampton Inn)
- ▼ Exercise room
- ▼ Guest laundry facilities
- ▼ On-site convenience store (Homewood Suites and Hampton Inn)
- ▼ Business center at Homewood Suites and Hampton Inn
- ▼ An outdoor pool (that can be used to test ROVs!)

All three of these hotels are located near convenience stores, restaurants (fine dining and fast food), shopping, and entertainment.

The deadline for reserving room(s) is June 2nd (the same day that your technical reports are due!). The hotels will release any unreserved rooms after this date. Rooms will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. MATE encourages you to call as soon as possible in order to secure your particular housing needs.

The MATE Center will NOT assist with coordinating same-gender sharing of rooms. A “housing posting board” has been created at <http://www.marinetech.org/discussion/index.php>. Your team may use this board to communicate with other teams regarding sharing rooms and rooming costs.

Each hotel has agreed to extend the \$84 (plus tax) per night rate to teams arriving earlier than June 22nd and/or departing later than June 26th. Work directly with the hotel to make these arrangements.

You are highly encouraged to use these competition hotels, but of course welcome to look into other housing options. However, please note that shuttle buses will only pick-off/drop-off at the competition hotel locations.

HOTEL CONTACT INFORMATION

*****To make reservations, call the hotel directly and ask for the MATE ROV competition rate*****

▼ **HOMEWOOD SUITES-CLEAR LAKE (competition headquarters)**

401 Bay Area Blvd.
Houston, TX 77058
(281) 486-7677
www.homewoodsuites.com

▼ **HAMPTON INN & SUITES-CLEAR LAKE NASA**

506 West Bay Area Blvd.
Webster, TX 77598
(281) 332-7952
www.hamptoninnclearlake.com

▼ **EXTENDED STAY HOUSTON-NASA**

720 West Bay Area Blvd.

Webster, TX 77598

(281) 338-7711

www.extendedstay.com

MEALS

The MATE Center is providing a Friday evening kick-off reception, lunches each day of the competition (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday), and a Sunday evening awards banquet to all student team members, lead instructor(s), mentor(s), and competition volunteer staff **ONLY**. Parents, spouses, siblings, cheerleaders, etc. are responsible for their own lunches, but are able to purchase tickets for the kick-off reception and awards banquet.

FRIDAY EVENING RECEPTION

The MATE Center will provide kick-off reception tickets to student team members, instructor(s), and mentor(s) **ONLY**.

How many TOTAL student team members, instructors, and mentors will attend the Friday evening reception (at MATE’s expense) at the Space Center Houston?

Use the space below to order tickets for parents, spouses, siblings, cheerleaders, etc.

Total _____ # of reception tickets x \$20 = _____ total amount due

AWARDS BANQUET

The MATE Center will provide awards banquet tickets to student team members, instructor(s), and mentor(s) **ONLY**.

How many TOTAL student team members, instructors, and mentors will attend the Sunday evening awards banquet (at MATE’s expense) at the Space Center Houston? _____

Use the space below to order tickets for parents, spouses, siblings, cheerleaders, etc.

Total _____ # of awards banquet tickets x \$35 = _____ total amount due

IMPORTANT NOTES

You will receive an invoice for the kick-off reception and awards banquet tickets in advance. Payment (CASH or CHECK ONLY) is due prior to the competition or at the NBL immediately following the opening ceremony. Please make checks payable to the MATE Center.

Questions? Please contact Jill Zande at jzande@marinetech.org or (831) 646-3082.