

## **COMPACT EXCAVATOR OPERATION**

**Description:** The student (maximum of one individual per school) will demonstrate sound understanding and proficient operation of a compact excavator. The student will be required to perform a safety and maintenance inspection prior to operation and operate a compact excavator through a series of tasks that simulate real-world job applications. Such applications might include digging a trench or square hole, backfilling, accurately placing material, operating in tight spaces, and connecting a quick coupler. Students will take an online pre-qualifying exam, with the top scoring participants advancing to Friday's field exercise. Topics covered by the online exam include safety, maintenance, operation, and key machine characteristics of a compact excavator.

**Pre-Event Qualifying Test:** There will be a proctor monitored online test held onsite at NCLC. The testing center will be open Tuesday, March 12 from 10 am – 10 pm and Wednesday, March 13 from 7 am – 7 pm. See the schedule for room assignments. Results will be posted on Wednesday night at 9 pm.

**Time:** Students must complete the online pre-qualifying exam in the time allotted by NALP. Judges will time students during the online exam, but this time will only be used as a tie breaker. Students participating in the field exercise will be allotted 30 minutes to complete the field portion of the event. Time-slots for Friday's field exercise will be assigned during Thursday's event briefing.

**Limits:** There is no limit to the number of students that can participate in the online exam. There will be a limit of 40 teams that may participate in the field exercise. The number of teams participating in the field exercise is limited due to time constraints.

## **JUDGING CRITERIA**

**Points:** 100 possible points for the individual score; the individual score is doubled toward the team score for a total of 200 possible points.

Points will be assigned based on the following criteria:

1. Safe and accurate completion of safety and maintenance walk around and machine operation (100%)

Time will only be used as a tiebreaker. In the event that time is needed to break a tie, the combined time it takes the student to complete both operating stations will be used.

**Students are required to bring the following materials to the event:** Students are required to wear hard-soled shoes or boots.

**Sponsor is required to supply the following materials for the event:**

- The sponsor will provide hard hats, safety glasses, gloves, and ear protection at each station. The use of safety equipment will not be part of the point calculation. However, we strongly recommend that each student use these items for personal safety and injury prevention.
- Minimum of two compact excavators for operation of event
- Diagram and set up of obstacle course
- Stopwatches
- Sufficient number of judges and event monitors