



ICPC FACT SHEET – World Finals Release – 31 January 2012

The 36th Annual World Finals of the ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) sponsored by IBM

hosted by the University of Warsaw

About the Contest – <http://www.acmicpc.org>

The ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) traces its roots to a competition held at Texas A&M in 1970 hosted by the Alpha Chapter of the UPE Computer Science Honor Society. The idea quickly gained popularity within the United States and Canada as an innovative initiative to raise the aspirations, performance, and opportunity of the top students in the emerging field of computer science.

The contest evolved into a multi-tier competition with the first Finals held at the ACM Computer Science Conference in 1977. Operating under the auspices of ACM and headquartered at Baylor University since 1989, the contest has expanded into a global network of universities hosting regional competitions that advance teams to the ACM-ICPC World Finals.

Since IBM became sponsor in 1997, ICPC participation has increased by more than 1000%. This year, ICPC participation included over 30,000 of the finest students and faculty in computing disciplines from over 2,200 universities from 85 countries on six continents.

The contest fosters creativity, teamwork, and innovation in building new software programs, and enables students to test their ability to perform under pressure. Quite simply, it is the oldest, largest, and most prestigious programming contest in the world.

The annual event is comprised of several levels of competition:

- *Local Contests* – Universities choose teams or hold local contests to select one or more teams to represent them at the next level of competition. Selection takes place from a field of over 300,000 students in computing disciplines worldwide.
- *Regional Contests* (September to December 2011) – This year 25,016 contestants from 2,219 universities from 85 countries on six continents competed at over 300 sites. Another 28,015 students competed in the ICPC and ICPC assisted contests combined.
- *World Finals* (May 14-18, 2012, Warsaw, Poland) – Hosted by the University of Warsaw, one hundred and twelve (112) world finalist teams will compete for awards, prizes and bragging rights. These teams represent the best of the great universities on six continents - the cream of the crop.

Battle of the Brains

The contest pits teams of three university students against eight or more complex, real-world problems, with a grueling five-hour deadline. Huddled around a single computer, competitors race against the clock in a battle of logic, strategy and mental endurance.

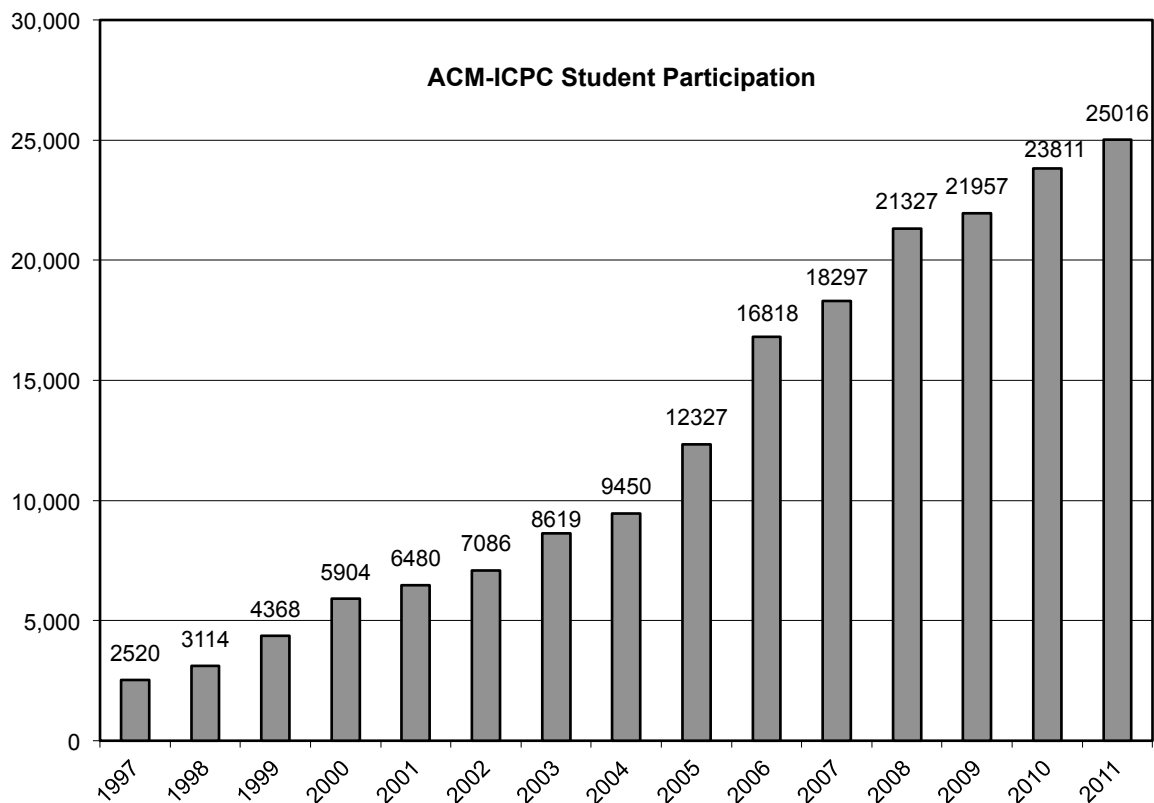
Teammates collaborate to rank the difficulty of the problems, deduce the requirements, design test beds, and build software systems that solve the problems under the intense scrutiny of expert judges. For a well-versed computer science student, some of the problems require precision only. Others require a knowledge and understanding of advanced algorithms. Still others are simply too hard to solve – except, of course, for the world's brightest problem-solvers.

Judging is relentlessly strict. The students are given a problem statement – not a requirements document. They are given an example of test data, but they do not have access to the judges’ test data and acceptance criteria. Each incorrect solution submitted is assessed a time penalty. You don’t want to waste your customer’s time when you are dealing with the supreme court of computing. The team that solves the most problems in the fewest attempts in the least cumulative time is declared the winner.

To learn more about the ICPC, please visit <http://acmicpc.org> or <http://icpc.baylor.edu/>. Visit the ICPC podcast series at <http://battleofthebrains.podbean.com> for insights from past contestants and current IBM executives.

Contest Growth

ACM, IBM, UPE, and Baylor University are thrilled that the contest continues to attract the best and brightest students from around the world with 25,016 contestants from 2,219 universities in 85 countries competing this past year. Since the beginning of IBM’s sponsorship in 1997, participation has increased more than 1000%. For more information on previous contests, and last year’s final standings and problem sets, please see <http://icpc.baylor.edu/> or <http://www.ibm.com/university/acmcontest/>. Growth continues.



World Finals 2012 hosted by the University of Warsaw – the final round for the 2011 Regionals

One hundred and twelve teams from regional contests servicing universities worldwide have advanced to the World Finals to be held in Warsaw, Poland, May 14 – 18, 2012. The World Finals is hosted by the University of Warsaw. UW has two World Championships and regularly advances teams to the World Finals under coaches Jan Madey and Krzysztof Diks, the 2012 World Finals Director and Co-Director. The President of Poland, Bronislaw Komorowski, is Honorary Chair of the 2012 ACM-ICPC World Finals Patrons which includes Poland’s Ministries of Economy, Science and Higher Education, Interior and Administration, Foreign Affairs, and Education; the Mayor of Warsaw; and the Governor of the Mazowieckie Province.

Recent medal winners in order of finish are:

- 2011 Gold: Zhejiang University (China)
University of Michigan at Ann Arbor (U. S. A.)
Tsinghua University (China)
St. Petersburg State University (Russia)

- 2010 Gold: Shanghai Jiaotong University (China)
Moscow State University (Russia)
National Taiwan University (Taiwan)
Taras Shevchenko Kiev National University (Ukraine)
- 2009 Gold: St. Petersburg State University of Information Technology, Mechanics & Optics (Russia)
Tsinghua University (China)
St. Petersburg State University (Russia)
Saratov State University (Russia)
- 2008 Gold: St. Petersburg State University of Information Technology, Mechanics & Optics (Russia)
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (U. S. A.)
Izhevsk State Technical University (Russia)
Lviv National University (Ukraine)
- 2007 Gold: Warsaw University (Poland)
Tsinghua University (China)
St. Petersburg State University of Information Technology, Mechanics & Optics (Russia)
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (U. S. A.)

About ACM

ACM, the Association for Computing Machinery, with more than 100,000 members, is the world's largest educational and scientific computing society, uniting computing educators, researchers, professionals, and students to inspire dialogue, share resources and address the field's challenges. ACM strengthens the computing profession's collective voice through strong leadership, promotion of the highest standards, and recognition of technical excellence. ACM supports the professional growth of its members by providing opportunities for life-long learning, career development, and professional networking. For more information, see <http://www.acm.org>.

About IBM

With the Smarter Planet initiative, IBM believes intelligence allows for the growth and innovation of human life, including the way people live, work, and govern themselves; the way services are ordered and delivered; and the way the environment is protected.

The world is already connected economically, technologically and socially. However, being connected alone is not sufficient. The world needs new generations of talent, leaders and problem solvers to infuse intelligence into our daily lives.

IBM is the world's largest information technology and service provider. Over the last decade, IBM has driven a significant transformation of its business model as the company shifts to higher value areas and improve efficiency of the business. IBM has been building these capabilities to round out the portfolio to address the needs of clients and the society.

IBM has 35,000 software engineers in more than 90 research and development laboratories around the globe, who focus on solving real-world business issues for clients in more than 170 countries. IBM invests in high business values and strategic markets such as Business Analytics and Optimization; Cloud Computing; Smarter Commerce; Business Services; Enterprise Operations; Risk Management; Mobile Computing; and Collaboration. IBM's Watson computer is an example of data analytics. IBM provides industry solutions in areas such as smarter cities, energy, utility, financial markets, chemicals, petroleum, electronics, public service, health care, retail, telecommunications, transportation, manufacturing, media and entertainment. For more information, visit <http://www.ibm.com/software>.

IBM's Commitment

IBM's sponsorship commitment to the ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest is part of a company-wide effort to advance the next generation of technology leaders and problem solvers who have combined skills of computing science and business management. For more information, visit <http://www.ibm.com/university/acmcontest/>

The University of Warsaw's Commitment

The University of Warsaw has a historical commitment to excellence in problem solving. Having hosted regional contests, having regularly advanced teams to the World Finals, and with World Championships in 2003 and 2007, UW is pleased to host the 2012 World Finals in Warsaw. The President of Poland, Bronislaw Komorowski, will take Honorary Patronage over the event with institutional support from the Ministries of Economy, Science and Higher Education, Interior and Administration, Foreign Affairs, and Education together

with the Mayor of Warsaw and the Governor of the Mazowieckie Province. For more information, visit <http://www.uw.edu.pl/en/>.

Baylor University's Commitment

Baylor University has been the home of the ICPC since the late 1980s, where it has been managed under the direction of Executive Director and Professor, Dr. William B. Poucher with global enterprise technology development headed by Dr. Jeff Donahoo, Deputy Executive Director. The ICPC contributes to Baylor's global mission to encourage the next generation to develop and apply their problem-solving talents to the challenges that face the world today and the world to come. Chartered by the Republic of Texas, Baylor is the oldest institution of higher learning in the State of Texas. You may find more about Baylor at <http://www.baylor.edu/>.

Upsilon Pi Epsilon's Commitment

The Upsilon Pi Epsilon International Computer Science Honor Society recognizes the best students of computer science and engineering in the world. Since its earliest participation, the UPE has provided support and scholarships to the World Finals teams. The UPE boasts the longest continuous relationship to the ICPC, dating back to 1970 with the first event held at Texas A&M by members of the Alpha Chapter of the UPE. For more information about other UPE activities, its chapters, and its membership click on: <http://www.acm.org/upe/>.

The 2012 ACM-ICPC World Finals List by Regions (In alphabetical order by region)

Africa and the Middle East

Alexandria University - Faculty of Engineering	Egypt
Cairo University - Faculty of Computers and Information	Egypt
German University in Cairo	Egypt
University of Cape Town	South Africa
American University of Sharjah	United Arab Emirates

Asia

Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology	Bangladesh
Shahjalal University of Science and Technology	Bangladesh
Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications	China
Fudan University	China
Fuzhou University	China
Graduate University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences	China
National University of Defense Technology	China
Peking University	China
Shanghai Jiao Tong University	China
Sichuan University	China
Software Engineering Institute of East China Normal University	China
Tianjin University	China
Tsinghua University	China
University of Electronic Science and Technology of China	China
Wuhan University	China
Zhejiang University	China
Zhejiang University of Technology	China
Zhongshan (Sun Yat-sen) University	China
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Hong Kong
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong
Chennai Mathematical Institute	India
Indian Institute of Technology - Delhi	India
Indian Institute of Technology - Kanpur	India
Indian Institute of Technology - Madras	India
International Institute of Information Technology - Hyderabad	India
Institut Teknologi Bandung	Indonesia
Sharif University of Technology	Iran
University of Tehran	Iran
Kyoto University	Japan
The University of Electro-Communications	Japan
University of Tokyo	Japan
Korea University	Korea, Republic of
Seoul National University	Korea, Republic of
International Islamic University Malaysia	Malaysia
University of the Philippines - Diliman	Philippines
Nanyang Technological University	Singapore
National University of Singapore	Singapore
National Taiwan University	Taiwan

Europe & the Russian Federation

Belarus State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics	Belarus
Belarusian State University	Belarus
Charles University in Prague	Czech Republic
Aalto University	Finland
Kazakh-British Technical University	Kazakhstan
University of Latvia	Latvia
Delft University of Technology	Netherlands
Eindhoven University of Technology	Netherlands
Jagiellonian University in Krakow	Poland
Poznan University of Technology	Poland
University of Warsaw	Poland
University of Wroclaw	Poland
University of Bucharest	Romania
Altai State Technical University	Russian Federation
Moscow Institute of Physics & Technology	Russian Federation
Moscow State University	Russian Federation
Nizhny Novgorod State University	Russian Federation
Saratov State University	Russian Federation
St. Petersburg State University	Russian Federation
St. Petersburg State University of IT, Mechanics and Optics	Russian Federation
Tomsk State University	Russian Federation
Udmurt State University	Russian Federation
Ufa State Aviation Technical University	Russian Federation
Ural Federal University	Russian Federation
Volgograd State Technical University	Russian Federation
Universitat Politcnica de Catalunya	Spain
National Technical University "Kharkiv Polytechnic Institute"	Ukraine
Taurida V.I. Vernadsky National University	Ukraine

Latin America

Universidad de Buenos Aires - FCEN	Argentina
Universidad Nacional de Córdoba - FaMAF	Argentina
Instituto Tecnológico de Aeronautica	Brazil
Universidade Federal de Campina Grande	Brazil
Universidade Federal de Pernambuco	Brazil
Universidade Federal do Paraná	Brazil
Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (DCC-UFRJ)	Brazil
Universidade de São Paulo - IME	Brazil
Universidad de los Andes	Columbia
Universidad Nacional de Colombia - Bogotá	Columbia
Universidad de La Habana	Cuba
Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo	Dominican Republic
ITESM Campus Puebla	Mexico
Universidad de Guanajuato - CIMAT	Mexico
Universidad Tecnológica de la Mixteca	Mexico
Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú	Peru
Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería	Peru

North America

University of Alberta	Canada
University of British Columbia	Canada
University of Toronto	Canada
University of Waterloo	Canada
Carnegie Mellon University	United States
College of William and Mary	United States
Duke University	United States
Georgia Institute of Technology	United States
Harvard University	United States
Illinois Institute of Technology	United States
Iowa State University	United States
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States
Messiah College	United States
Princeton University	United States
Stanford University	United States
University of Central Florida	United States
University of Chicago	United States
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	United States
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	United States
University of Southern California	United States
University of Tulsa	United States
University of Wisconsin - Madison	United States

South Pacific

University of New South Wales	Australia
University of Canterbury	New Zealand