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2015 ACC Young Professionals Innovation Competition Winners Selected

Team of individuals from Denver International Airport, Iron Horse Architects, and Jensen Hughes selected first place for their submission, 'Emergency Communication Systems (ECS)'

Alexandria, VA - The Airport Consultants Council (ACC) is pleased to announce the winners of the [2015 ACC Young Professionals Innovation Competition](#). The first place team will present their submission on March 4 at the [2016 ACC/AAAE Airport Planning, Design and Construction Symposium in Salt Lake City, Utah](#). The first and second place teams will also have the opportunity to display their submissions at the event.

First place was awarded to a team consisting of Megan Moser and David McLeod with Denver International Airport, Courtney Brand with Iron Horse Architects, and Julie Buffam with Jensen Hughes for their submission [Emergency Communication Systems \(ECS\)](#). It proposes the development of an emergency communication system that can be used at all airports throughout the world; the creation of a mobile notification system that can reach all people in the vicinity of the emergency; and the development of a mobile app which guides users to crucial amenities such as shelter, equipment, transportation and lodging.

Second place was awarded to a team consisting of Chris Hazell, Chris Vulcano, Cory Haugh, and Kristen Young with AECOM for their submission [Augmenting Space with Indoor Positioning Data](#). It proposes that airport operators consider a holistic approach to how they adopt indoor positioning technologies to communicate with their passengers. The passenger experience can be heightened by personally tailoring way-finding of an unfamiliar environment. Conversely, building environments can dynamically react to occupant density thus improving infrastructure and driving revenue.

Third place was awarded to a team consisting of Shady Elshetwy and Sean McGovern with Burns Engineering; and Darren D'Achille and Mathieu Savarit-Cosenza with Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson for their submission [A PATH lit to Safety](#). PATHS is a predetermined airfield traffic hierarchy system designed to minimize incursions. Operated by the Air Traffic Controller, PATHS is a new method of taxiing aircraft by illuminating a route to and from the runway using LED technology installed parallel to pavement markings. The methodology included a cost analysis, installation procedures, incorporation into existing infrastructure as a secondary system, drawbacks, and feasibility.

"All of the submissions were of an incredibly high caliber and an excellent representation of ACC's diverse membership" said 2016 ACC Board of Directors Chair Don Bergin, vice president at Blast Deflectors. "Congratulations to this year's winners. The poster session at the 2016 Symposium in Salt Lake City will be a great opportunity for members of our industry to see firsthand the exciting and innovative ideas our young colleagues are generating."

ACC thanks all who submitted projects and participated in the competition, including team members from the following firms and airports:

Barge Waggoner Sumner & Cannon
C&S Companies
CH2M
DOWL
Gensler
Hoyle, Tanner & Associates
J.A. Watts

Jacobsen|Daniels
Kutchins & Groh
Logplan
Mead & Hunt
Panther International
Pattern
Philadelphia International Airport

Phoenix Deer Valley Airport
Populous
Progresstech
RS&H
Stantec Consulting
Urban Engineers

Competition submissions were evaluated by a panel of judges that included Paul Bowers, publisher of *Airport Improvement Magazine*; Evan Futterman, president and CEO of Futterman Consulting; Susan Prediger, president of SP Consulting; Wilson Rayfield, architecture principal at Gresham, Smith & Partners; and Zach Varwig, systems analyst at Faith Group, LLC, a young professional, and a past winner of the competition.

The competition is part of the larger efforts of the [ACC Young Professionals Forum](#) - a means to engage the young professionals in ACC member firms and enhance their professional careers. Targeted for industry professionals that are under the age of 35, the Young Professionals Forum is intended to provide networking, mentoring, education, and career growth opportunities.

Sponsored by the *Arnold W. Thompson Charitable Trust*, the purpose of this competition is to encourage innovative thinking among young professionals who are involved in the development and operations of airports. ACC encouraged teams of young professionals to provide creative submissions that deliver new, innovative ideas that further airport development globally and address current and future challenges.

The Airport Consultants Council (ACC) is the global trade association that represents private businesses involved in the development and operations of airports and related facilities. ACC is the only association that focuses exclusively on the business interests of firms with airport-related technical expertise. ACC informs its members of new trends while promoting fair competition and procurement practices that protect the industry's bottom line. Founded in 1978, ACC Headquarters is located in the Washington, D.C. area. View this release online at www.ACOnline.org.

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