



ASC Regions 6 & 7 – 2027 Student Competition

Alternates Competition

PRE-PROBLEM INFORMATION

Rudolph and Sletten, Inc



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I. The Alternates Competition

Welcome to the ASC Regions 6 & 7 Student Competition! Your participation is a testament to your hard work, dedication, and commitment to this incredible opportunity. Industry leaders nationwide recognize the effort you are putting into learning, growing, and preparing for a career in the construction industry. Work hard, challenge yourself, and most importantly, have fun!

The Alternates Competition is a great way to experience the ASC Competition from a hands-on, fast-paced, and industry-relevant perspective. Each year, Rudolph and Sletten, Inc. (R&S) develops a completely unique and diverse problem centered around the types of projects and work in which R&S specializes. Take some time to explore our website, get to know R&S, and learn about the market segments in which we work. Come prepared to experience the types of challenges we encounter on a daily basis.

This is approximately a 12-hour, single-day problem. As in years past, we will form your teams based on simple, predetermined metrics, and teams may not be modified. R&S will begin with an introduction and a high-level overview of what you can expect during the problem.

While staying close to the judging team may give you the opportunity to hear about potential one-off issues or clarifications, you are welcome to work wherever you choose within the Nugget Ballroom. Time management and delivery are important components of your overall score, so make sure all deliverables are submitted on time and that your entire team is present and on time for the short interview session.

II. Competition Problem

The problem presented during the competition will be based on a current or recently completed R&S project. The authors of the problem, as well as some of the judges scoring your performance, were deeply involved in the project. As a result, you can expect to encounter real-world challenges the project team faced during both the preconstruction and construction phases.

Please be aware that not all Contract Documents will be provided as part of the problem statement. This is intentional and designed to help you focus on the documents most relevant to the questions you will be asked. If a document is not included in the competition package, you will not need it to complete the problem.

III. Basic Skills

The following are some of the basic skills teams should be somewhat knowledgeable in.

- Critical Reading
- Plan / Specification Reading
- Scheduling (Primavera, Project, Excel, etc.)
- Cost Estimating
- Technical Writing
- Risk Management
- Construction Safety Requirements
- Site Utilization / Logistics



IV. Tips for Success

The Alternates Problem is designed to push your limits, test your abilities, and maybe even induce a little stress. Ultimately, it is an opportunity to learn a tremendous amount about the construction industry you may one day enter.

We understand that this may be your first ASC Competition experience, and we have designed the problem with that in mind. To give your team a head start, consider the following:

- **Research Rudolph and Sletten.** Get familiar with our company and the types of projects we build. Understanding who we are and what we do will give you valuable context as you work through the problem.
- **Come prepared.** Bring your laptop, an extra monitor, calculator, highlighters, and anything else you think you may need. Once the problem statement has been distributed, you will not be able to return to your room during the competition.
- **Know your team.** Take some time to understand who your teammates are and what strengths each person brings to the competition. Remember that every team member has something valuable to contribute, even those with the least experience.
- **Think about scheduling.** Consider how the project needs to be built and how the activities should be sequenced. If you have access to Primavera P6 or Microsoft Project, great. If not, use Excel, a hand sketch, or whatever tool helps you communicate your approach. To us, the quality of your thinking and content is more important than the software you use.
- **Know Bluebeam.** If you have an opportunity to familiarize yourself with Bluebeam before the competition, take it. It will help you.
- **Google it.** This is a learning experience, and you are allowed—and encouraged—to research and find answers wherever you can. The R&S coaches, judges, and leaders will be available throughout the problem to clarify requirements and answer questions. However, we will not answer questions that can be resolved through a simple Google search.
- **Remember that we are the judges.** During the problem, our role is to challenge you. If we say or do something that feels tough, don't take it personally. Conflict, pressure, and difficult conversations are a normal part of the construction industry. Once the problem is over, come talk to us at our hospitality suite or at the career fair. We promise we're much nicer outside the problem statement!

Most importantly, remember that if you've worked hard enough to get here, you will leave here better than when you started. Pay attention to the details. In our industry, it is often the smallest details that make the biggest difference. They are also the details that are most easily overlooked.

Rudolph and Sletten is proud to be part of this amazing opportunity and grateful to have you competing with us. We wish you and your team the very best of luck!

Thank you,

Rudolph and Sletten, Inc.

