To Interested University Students & Faculty:

The Request for Proposal for the 39th Annual (2021-2022) Vertical Flight Society’s (VFS) Student Design Competition, sponsored by Bell is now posted at www/vtol.org/sdc. Bell and VFS encourages universities from around the world to form teams and take part in this exciting vertical flight endeavor.

The design competition sponsorship rotates between Airbus, Leonardo Helicopters, The Boeing Company, Bell, Sikorsky Aircraft, a Lockheed Martin Co., and the US Army Research Laboratory.

This year’s Student Design Competition is “eVTOL Air Taxi for Passengers with Reduced Mobility (PRM)”. New electric propulsion technology is shaping a future for advanced air mobility (AAM) that could transform the way people and cargo are moved from Point A to Point B. To live up to this vision, student teams are challenged with designing and all-electric eVTOL aircraft to account for a broad spectrum of travellers that includes persons with disabilities of all types. This calls for an eVTOL concept that factors the unique requirements for such passengers.

Bell will provide the funds for the awards through the Society and final submissions are judged in three (3) categories:

Undergraduate category:
- 1st place: $2,000
- 2nd place: $1,200
- 3rd place: $750

Graduate category:
- 1st place: $2,500
- 2nd place: $1,800
- 3rd place: $1,000

Best first time entrant:
- $500 (Undergraduate)
- $750 (Graduate)

Important deadline dates:
- Letter of Intent to participate no later than February 1, 2022.
- Requests for Information no later than February 25, 2022.
- Responses will be circulated by March 25, 2022 to all participating teams.
- Final Proposals May 31, 2022.

The Society recommends that you read the white paper Student Design Competition on Judging. Please address all correspondence to jmgibbs@vtol.org or through my contact information below.

Good Luck,

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