The Northeast Region of the American Helicopter Society will hold its annual Robert Lichten Award competition in Stratford on 9 December 2015. The purpose of the Lichten competition is to promote the exchange of technical information by encouraging AHS members to write and present papers dealing with all areas of rotorcraft technologies. The competition is especially tailored to provide authors and, in particular, new presenters an opportunity to be recognized for their contributions to the field. All AHS members who have not previously presented a paper at a national meeting of the AHS or other technical society are eligible. Co-authors of papers who have not formally (co-)presented their paper(s) are also eligible.

The Lichten award is based upon a judged competition of presentations that will be held during a dinner meeting organized by the Stratford Chapter of the AHS in December 9th. All aspects of rotorcraft sciences, engineering, manufacturing, test or operations are acceptable. Three finalists will be selected from the abstracts received. The presentations must be delivered by the competitors and should be no longer than 20 min. No written paper is required at the time of this regional competition. A panel of judges will be appointed to evaluate the presentations. Ranking criteria shall include personal contributions of the author, originality, relevance and technical content of the work in addition to organization and clarity of the presentation. A $200 honorarium will be presented to the winner of the Northeast Region competition and $100 honorarium will be awarded to the runners-up. The winner of the Northeast Region will be required to write and submit a paper on their subject for the Technical Director of the AHS (by 28 February 2016). The paper, along with those from other regional finalists, will be evaluated for consideration for the National Lichten Award.

The national award winner, selected by AHS, shall receive a $500 honorarium, and a paid invitation (registration, travel from US origin to the forum site, lodging) to attend and present their paper at the 72nd AHS Annual Forum to be hosted in West Palm Beach, FL, 17-19 May 2015. Also open to U.S. Citizens is the opportunity to receive the Robert Lichten Internship award -- an eight-week internship at one of the NASA centers.

If you are interested in competing for the Lichten Award, send a title and brief abstract via e-mail to Steve Makinen, Chairman, AHS NE Region Chapter Lichten Competition at: smakinen@sikorsky.com (203-386-4875) by 4 November 2015. Non-members may visit www.vtol.org for information on membership, benefits, fees, etc.