

Kobelco-Sponsored High School Team Wins First Place at Construction Challenge 2009

Kobelco Cranes North America, a global leader in the manufacturing of hydraulic lattice-boom crawler cranes, sponsored a team of students from the Dallas Area in the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) annual Construction Challenge 2009. The challenge is designed to be a Career Education Initiative that helps develop the workforce of the future with teen participants competing and solving infrastructure, design and service tech challenges using teamwork, creativity and problem solving. Kobelco Cranes sponsored student team had qualified at one of the fifteen regional rallies held earlier in the year across the United States and Canada.

The Kobelco-sponsored team, made up of students from Martin High School, Richardson High School, Pearce High School and Parkhill Junior High School, took first place at the Construction Challenge – Global Finals 2009, which occurred on May 20-23, 2009.

The Challenge – Global Finals

The Construction Challenge consisted of Challenge 1 – Infrastructure PR Campaign, Challenge 2 – Manufacturing Design: Free Flow, and Challenge 3 – Service Tech: Piling It On! The teams created a two-part structure to hold free weights (35- and 45-pounds) that would continuously be stacked until the structure broke or could hold no more. Each structure had to be a minimum of 3.75-inches tall. The structure was scored on a ratio of the amount of weight the structure held in pounds to the weight of the structure in grams. Their structure weighed 15.15 grams (approximately 4 pieces of 20-pound notebook paper weigh 18 grams) and held 820 pounds. The ratio for the amount of weight held versus the weight of the structure was 54.12.

In addition to designing and building the structure, the teams also had to present a performance that shows the merging of two art forms to create a new art form. The Dallas Area Team's performance told a story about Randy Handerson, who had oversized hands and was therefore, failing his art class. His dad helped him construct a project for class that merges two art forms together, architecture and sculpture, to create a new art form, called Archisculpture.

To view videos of the team's performance, please click below:

[Regional Rally Presentation](#)

[Global Finals Presentation](#)

For more information on Kobelco Cranes North America, please call us at 713-856-5755 or [email us](#).