



Top 20 schools named in 2010 Tomorrow's Technician/Chicago Pneumatic competition

Publish date: Feb 3, 2010

Source: Aftermarket Business

Chicago Pneumatic, WIX Filters and Tomorrow's Technician have selected the top 20 schools in the third annual School of the Year competition. Entries were received from 266 students and instructors nominating more than 160 high schools, technical schools and colleges.

“Each year the entries in the School of the Year competition get better and better, and this year was no exception,” says Danielle Stevens, marketing communications manager for Chicago Pneumatic, which has given more than \$55,000 in tools to contest participants in the past two years. “The beauty of this competition is the chance we have to interact with hundreds of dedicated students and instructors to learn what motivates this next generation of technicians to succeed.”

The top 20 schools are separated into four regions across the United States.

Southwest

Arapahoe Community College, Littleton, Colo.
College of Eastern Utah, Price, Utah
Northwest Kansas Technical College, Goodland, Kan.
Magdalena High School, Magdalena, N.M.

Southeast

Caddo Career and Technical Center, Shreveport, La.
Tidewater Community College, Chesapeake, Va.

Northwest

West Lane Technical Learning Center, Elmira, Ore.
Spokane Community College, Spokane, Wash.
McKay High School, Salem, Ore.
Lewiston High School, Lewiston, Idaho

Northeast

Chariho CTC, Wood River Junction, R.I.
Old Bridge High School, Matawan, N.J.
Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School, Rochester, Mass.
Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School, Northampton, Mass.
Carroll County Career & Technology Center, Westminster, Md.
Lincoln High School, Warren, Mich.
Grafton High School, Grafton, Wis.
Three District Career Technical, Linden, Mich.
University of Northwestern Ohio, Lima, Ohio
Camden County Technical School, Pennsauken, N.J.

The top 20 schools move on to the second round of competition, which requires the programs to submit additional information about their schools and automotive programs, including teacher/student ratio, graduation percentage, community service involvement, special projects, scholarships for underprivileged students, job placement percentage, types of programs offered, number of instructors and which ASE certifications they hold, and any awards or recognitions they may have received. Additional information will be considered as well, and instructors are encouraged to be creative.

Participating schools have the chance to win their share of \$25,000 in tool prizes, with \$10,000 in Chicago Pneumatic tools going to the school crowned as the 2010 School of the Year, and \$5,000 to each of three regional finalists. The prize package for the four finalists also includes \$12,500 in WIX filters. The four regional finalists will have the opportunity to send select students to Charlotte, N.C., to attend the WIX Institute of Filtration Technology and a behind-the-scenes tool demonstration and tour at Joe Gibbs Racing.

“WIX is excited to be involved in the support of this program,” says Jeff Blocher, brand manager for WIX Filters. “The entries from students and instructors are inspiring; they give us all great hope for the future of our industry.”

In addition to nationwide recognition, the four regional winning schools will receive a commemorative trophy, Chicago Pneumatic tools, WIX filters, extended tool and filtration educational opportunities, branded gear, flags and shop banners. The winning institution will receive a special event at their school hosted by Chicago Pneumatic, Tomorrow’s Technician, and WIX Filters, with special guest Rich Evans, car fabricator, designer, painter and owner of Huntington Beach Bodyworks.

The final four schools will be announced in April and the 2010 School of the Year will be featured in the May issue of Tomorrow’s Technician magazine. Competition guidelines and prize details can be found [online](#).

More than 450 schools have entered the School of the Year competition during the past three years, including 2008 winner Waubensee Community College in Sugar Grove, Ill., and 2009 winner Ohio Technical College in Cleveland, Ohio.

Since 1939, [Wix® Filters](#) has been an innovator in filtration products. WIX designs, manufactures and distributes products for automotive, diesel, agricultural, industrial and specialty filter markets. Its product line includes oil, air, cabin interior, fuel, coolant, transmission and hydraulic filters for automobiles, trucks and off-road equipment. WIX, a member of the Affinia family of brands, is the number one filter in NASCAR and an exclusive NASCAR Performance Product. Its NASCAR relationship also includes the WIX Filters Lap Leader Award, which recognizes the drivers leading the most laps in each race.

[Chicago Pneumatic](#) (CP) is a global leader in the design, manufacture and distribution of high-performance tools, hydraulic attachments, industrial and portable compressors and associated accessories and workshop equipment. Since 1901, The CP brand has served the Vehicle Service, Construction and Industrial marketplace.