Call for the 2014 TRB Young Member Council’s Six Minute Pitch: A Transportation Startup Challenge

Introduction

Are you an entrepreneur or innovator with the next great business idea that will revolutionize transportation as we know it?

The Transportation Research Board (TRB) Young Member Council (YMC) is seeking emerging entrepreneurs to participate in The Six Minute Pitch: A Transportation Startup Challenge, a session that will be held at the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting, January 12-16, 2014, in Washington, D.C. To learn more about the Annual Meeting visit TRB’s website: http://www.trb.org/AnnualMeeting2014/AnnualMeeting2014.aspx.

At this session, selected presenters will have an opportunity to pitch their cutting-edge, research-based concepts for transportation product or service-based business to a panel of distinguished transportation industry investors and entrepreneurs in just six minutes. The evaluation panel will provide feedback to each presenter on the viability of the product or service presented in today’s transportation industry. An honorary ‘winner’ of the challenge will be declared at the close of the session. The inaugural January 2013 Six Minute Pitch session was one of the most well-attended sessions at the TRB Annual Meeting - with an attendance of more than 200. Don’t miss the opportunity to participate in this one-of-a-kind TRB Annual Meeting session!

Who can submit an entry? Any professional with a transportation-related business idea or active startup, but preference will be given to young professionals (TRB defines ‘young’ as professionals 35 or younger). A preference will also be given to individuals who intend to register for TRB.

What are the submission requirements? Submit your application using this form (http://ow.ly/pOO6g). Applicants must also provide a current resume or CV (PDF or Microsoft Word) via email to sjohnson@foursquareitp.com. The submission via email of additional supporting materials, such as concept designs, web links, or existing presentations, is also encouraged. All applicants must describe how their product or service will bring research to commercial application. Presentations should include an interactive element, such as a presentation of a prototype or demonstration of software under development. The use of Prezi or PowerPoint is also permitted.

What topic areas will be covered? Transportation products and services in all modes of transportation. Business concepts that are oriented towards both the end consumer and those serving the transportation industry itself will be considered. Transportation planning and management consulting business ideas will not be accepted.

When are entries due? November 15, 2013 (accepted presenters will be notified in late November)

Questions? Contact Shana Johnson at sjohnson@foursquareitp.com

Judging Panel

Sean O’Sullivan, Carma and SOSventures

Sean is co-founder and managing director of Avego, Carma’s parent company, a 50 person technology firm with offices in the United States and Ireland. He is also managing director of SOSventures International, an investment management operation, and a founder of Jump-Start International and Chinaccelerator.

Gabe Klein, Chicago DOT

Gabe was appointed Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Transportation in May 2011. Under Klein, CDOT is a customer-focused agency that is a national leader in technology, multi-modal innovation and sustainable design that consistently makes a positive impact on quality of life for Chicago’s 2.6 million residents.

Chris Stallman, Fontinalis Partners Maps

Chris is a Vice President at Fontinalis Partners, a strategic investment firm that specializes in Next-Generation Mobility. His responsibilities include executing new investments and supporting a variety of strategic initiatives across the portfolio.

Sita Visan, SwitchPitch (tentative)

Sita is Director at Intel Capital, Intel’s venture capital arm. Most recently, she helped launch SwitchPitch to engage startups for their tech project needs and set up a non-profit called Capital-E to put the DC corridor on the map for EdTech.