



NextEnergy to sponsor the MobiPrize for Michigan Entrepreneurs

Winners will be announced during the 2014 ITS World Congress in September.

Deadline for applications is July 7.

Detroit, Mich. June 25, 2014 – The University of Michigan [Sustainable Mobility and Accessibility Research and Transformation](#) (SMART) initiative, announced it is seeking applications for the 2014 MobiPrize.

NextEnergy will sponsor a \$5000 MobiPrize for Michigan Entrepreneurs who, through their innovative new mobility technology, service, product, or infrastructure venture, are contributing to the Michigan region and economy.

Honoring entrepreneurial ventures as well as state and city governments supporting entrepreneurs, the MobiPrize provides a platform to showcase the disruptive innovation in New Mobility that is driving investment throughout the global marketplace.

“Next generation transportation is turning out to be a disruptive, transformative force,” said Komal Anand, Research Associate & Mobi Manager for the University of Michigan (SMART) Initiative. **“It’s not only advancing the livability and sustainability of communities worldwide. It’s advancing our local and global economies, industries and enterprises. Especially now, with new information technologies, new shared service models, and new attitudes (particularly among youth) that are exploding the innovation opportunities in the New Mobility space.”**

Winners of all the three 2014 MobiPrizes will be recognized at the [21st World Congress on Intelligent Transport Systems](#), happening September 7-11, 2014, in Detroit, Michigan. The event brings together more than 10,000 transportation and business professionals, innovators and engineers, investors, researchers, elected officials, and public agency representatives from the US and around the world to showcase the latest transportation technologies and share ideas and strategies for reinventing transportation in our connected world.

“We’re very excited about sponsoring the MobiPrize for Michigan Entrepreneurs because it’s a great way for NextEnergy to crowdsource and recognize Michigan individuals and companies that are developing new mobility solutions that are contributing to the local economy,” said Aniela Kuzon, Business Development Manager at NextEnergy.

The deadline for MobiPrize entries is July 7, 2014. For a complete list of guidelines in each category and more information on the MobiPrize program, please visit www.mobiprize.com. For more information about the MobiPlatform, please visit www.mobi-platform.com.

About NextEnergy:

Founded in 2002 as 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, NextEnergy is one of the nation’s leading accelerators of advanced energy technologies, businesses and industries. NextEnergy drives technology demonstration and commercialization; delivers industry and venture development services; and provides an authoritative voice in the public sector. Since its inception, NextEnergy has helped attract more than \$1.3 billion of new investment in the state of Michigan, including programs in excess of \$150 million in which NextEnergy has directly participated. For more information, visit nextenergy.org.

About the University of Michigan SMART Initiative:

SMART (Sustainable Mobility and Accessibility Research and Transformation) at the University of Michigan undertakes and catalyzes research, on-the-ground projects, education, and global learning exchange on a wide range of issues and opportunities related to the sustainable future of transportation in an urbanizing world. Recognizing the complexity of the challenge and the sophistication of the innovation required, SMART takes a systems approach to urban mobility, or more broadly, accessibility. As a university-wide initiative of UMTRI and the Taubman School of Architecture and Urban Planning, SMART works with local and international partners from diverse sectors and disciplines to understand and develop new theoretical approaches, and to generate and accelerate implementation of practical, innovative, systems solutions and to advance related New Mobility industry, entrepreneurship, and employment. For more information, visit um-smart.org.

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