Bentley Systems Announces New Bentley Education Program, Putting Students on the Path to a Career in Infrastructure

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Bentley Systems, Incorporated, the *infrastructure engineering software* company, announces the creation of the Bentley Education program, which encourages the development of future infrastructure professionals by instilling in them a desire to work toward a career in the engineering, design, and architectural fields.

The Bentley Education program, which is currently available in the United Kingdom, Australia, Singapore, Ireland, and Lithuania with plans to expand to the United States, Canada, Mexico, Latin America, and India by mid-summer.

The program grants students free access to Bentley infrastructure engineering applications and proven learnings through the new Bentley Education portal. Students and educators from around the globe can register on the Education portal and connect to infrastructure organizations and resources to start their engineering career.

Moreover, the portal serves as a gateway for individual students or teams of two to submit their innovative concepts to Bentley's *Future Infrastructure Star Challenge 2021*. The global competition is open to students from community colleges, polytechnics institutes, and universities. Students advancing in the challenge have a chance to work on various elements of modeling, designing, scheduling, and visualization to build a design model based on their ideas that improve quality of life. The winner of the *Future Infrastructure Star Challenge* will be announced during the *Going Digital* Awards at the *Year in Infrastructure 2021* Conference.

The Bentley Education portal provides a single source for an on-demand, frictionless, and fun experience for students as they build and enhance their digital design skills. Students and educators have access to comprehensive resources, including:

- Insights from leading AEC professionals sharing what the industry has to offer students and what skills are in high demand.
- The latest news and emerging trends in architecture, engineering, and construction for a fun learning experience.
- The industry perspective of current engineering students, mentors, and women in engineering.

The portal can be accessed via https://education.bentley.com.

"With many nations and institutions recommitting education as one of the top priorities for a post pandemic world, we are excited to launch this long-awaited and responsive program during these critical times," said Katriona Lord-Levins, chief success officer, Bentley Systems. "We want to inspire and encourage students to think about infrastructure engineering as a possible career path and expose these young minds to the vast field of opportunities that lie ahead of them."

The Bentley Education program is open to students and educators at community colleges, technical institutes, polytechnics, universities, secondary schools, and homeschooled students. The program is designed to create world-class talent that can rise to the challenge of improving quality of life and positively changing the world using Bentley infrastructure engineering software, applications, and proven learnings. The Bentley Education program will also help students develop critical digital skills to support a qualified talent pipeline and bolster infrastructure growth worldwide.

The program offers full access to learning licenses of over 40 of Bentley's most popular applications used by infrastructure professionals around the globe, including ContextCapture, MicroStation, OpenRoads Designer, STAAD.Pro, and SYNCHRO.

"We want to make the Bentley Education portal *the* place where students can go and become inspired to make infrastructure engineering their career choice," said Vinayak Trivedi, vice president of Bentley Education. "The goal of the program is to help students who are passionate about infrastructure get a jumpstart on what will become a fulfilling, lifelong career for improving the quality of life and positively changing the world. Moreover, the *Future Infrastructure Star Challenge 2021* provides an avenue for young people to be creative and innovative with their project designs."

The inaugural *Future Infrastructure Star Challenge* is divided into two stages – 1 – conceptualization and 2

– design and visualization. Students are invited to submit their ideas for the next big infrastructure project during the conceptualization phase in any of the following categories – road and rail, building and facilities, water and wastewater, cities and mapping, and power generation. While conceptualizing the idea, students should focus on solving an environmental challenge that hinders infrastructure development, consider how to optimally use the Internet of Things, design a scale model, and contribute to the world's health and welfare.

The top 20 projects from the conceptualization stage will each win USD 500, with the top 10 projects moving onto the design and visualization stage. Here they may have the opportunity to work with industry professionals and attend masterclasses with Bentley experts to bring their ideas to life using Bentley applications. In addition to being announced at the *Year in Infrastructure* Conference, the winner of the *Future Infrastructure Star Challenge* receives a cash prize of USD 5,000 and recognition in Bentley's *2021 Infrastructure Yearbook*.

The Bentley Education program uses a role-based learning approach, allowing future infrastructure professionals to focus on specific capabilities needed for specific professions. Students can go beyond mere product proficiency and develop a comprehensive understanding of skillsets required to excel in various roles in the infrastructure engineering sector.

For more information on the Bentley Education program, including how to register students and educational organisations, visit https://education.bentley.com.

Photo credit: Bentley Systems