The Italian Student Contest in Software Engineering (SCORE-it -- http://score-contest.it) is a novel Italian initiative inspired by worldwide SCORE (http://score-contest.org), and it will be part of the 37th International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE 2015).

SCORE-it emphasizes the engineering aspects of software development, as opposed to a narrower view that tends to reduce the endeavor and process of software construction to mere programming. The competition is targeted to students in Italian Universities at both undergraduate and master's level. Students are encouraged in forming teams, however also one-person teams are allowed.

To take part in the competition, teams must register and follow the contest rules as outlined below.

After a careful evaluation carried out by the SCORE-it Program Committee, several finalist teams will be invited to ICSE 2015 in Florence to present their projects and receive their awards at the conference.

CONTEST RULES

PROJECT TOPICS

Participating teams are given freedom in choosing their projects by fostering their creativity. For example, participating teams may consider the Internet of Things (IoT) theme.

With respect to this theme, projects leveraging interconnected devices and their data, should put an emphasis on innovative software services, apps, or tools involving several fields. Domains of interest for the contest include (but are not limited to) the following: context awareness, smart cities, environmental monitoring, analysis and prediction of extra-functional measurement (e.g. energy consumption, temperature, bandwidth, etc.), green software engineering. Participants are free to use their preferred supporting platform; possible examples for IoT are:

- [http://open.sen.se/](http://open.sen.se/)
- [https://www.thingspeak.com/](https://www.thingspeak.com/)
- [http://xively.com/](http://xively.com/)
REGISTRATION AND PROPOSALS

Before starting the project, teams must register by providing the following information:

- Team members (although tentative, give names, email addresses, institutions);
- Name and email address of the contact person;
- Name and email address of the faculty member supervising the project, which will be CC-ed in the team-SCORE-it committee communications;

The registration procedure is available on the SCORE-it website: [www.score-contest.it](http://www.score-contest.it).

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Being SCORE-it a Software Engineering contest, participating teams are required to tackle the common phases of any engineering process: requirements, design, implementation, and V&V.

A project may be positively evaluated even though it does not cover all the phases with the same level of detail. Indeed, projects can focus on specific aspects (e.g., requirements elicitation and analysis, architectural design, testing, etc.) and devote more time and space to them in the report. Nevertheless, remaining aspects should be (at least) partially addressed. The complete implementation of the project is not required; however, it is mandatory to provide an executable prototype showing the feasibility of the design and implementation.

Teams are free to choose their own development approach and organize the process accordingly. Nevertheless, from the delivered documentation it should result clear which approach have been taken, and which specific software engineering aspects have been considered/highlighted.

However, certain project topics might explicitly state which approach must be taken, which aspects of software engineering should be focused on for a project to be judged successful, and which details must appear in the delivered documentation.

TEAM COMPOSITION

Teams must be composed exclusively of undergraduate and master students; PhD students cannot participate to SCORE-it. Every team can have no more than 5 members. However, the PC strongly advises be teams composed by 3 members. The team must indicate a local faculty member that supports the students advising and guiding the development of the project (e.g., if some projects are carried out in the context of an academic course, the teacher could advise one or more teams, etc.). However, the faculty member must not actively participate in the development of the project with the supervised team.
Teams may be formed and projects may be developed as part of software engineering courses. Also, teams can be formed by students from different institutions.

Every team must designate a contact person, to whom communications and enquiries will be addressed. Each communication between the team and the SCORE-it committee will be forwarded to the faculty member supervising the students.

CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

In order to mitigate potential conflict of interests, submitted projects will be evaluated by Italian software engineering researchers affiliated with Universities/Institutions abroad. ACM conflict of interest rules generally apply to the SCORE-it contest.

COPYRIGHT ISSUES

Unless exceptions explicitly stated in advance, all artifacts produced by the teams will be confidentially treated by the Program Committee during the evaluation phase. However, a copyright release will be requested for those projects that pass the first step of evaluation. These projects should submit a full deliverable (see the evaluation procedure below).

PAID WORK

Projects undertaken for SCORE-it must not be performed as part of professional and paid industrial work. However, normal academic support such as assistantships, scholarships, or industrial internships are allowed.

TEAM REGISTRATION AND SUBMISSION

TEAM REGISTRATION

According to the Contest Rule the Teams must register via the EasyChair conference system. Further details are available on the SCORE-it website: www.score-contest.it.

SUBMISSION

To take part in the SCORE-it contest, teams have to submit a deliverable composed by:
• a PDF summary report (approximately 20 pages complying with the ICSE formatting instructions) describing the adopted engineering process and the various artifacts produced during the design, development, and V&V;
• a zipped archive containing the implementation code and other development outcomes (work products such as specifications, tests, verification experiments, etc.).

Submissions can be either in English or in Italian. The chosen language used in the submissions is not an evaluation criterion. This means that submissions in English will not be evaluated better than those in Italian and viceversa.

The teams are responsible to deliver all the material that is necessary to run and fully evaluate their product (this will include any non-standard, non-free and/or non-publicly available development tools, libraries, run-time environments, scripts and detailed setup/install instructions, examples of configurations files, etc).

The deliverable must be submitted electronically by the stated deadline via the EasyChair conference system.

EVALUATION PROCESS

The evaluation process is structured in 2 steps:
  • deliverable evaluation
  • final competition on-site @ ICSE 2015

Each deliverable will be evaluated by at least 2 members of the SCORE-it Program Committee. Evaluation will be based on quality of all aspects of the project (summary report, process followed, development outcomes, etc.). In this phase, the 75% of the evaluation grade will consider the quality of the summary report, the development process followed, the analysis, and all the outcomes of the early software lifecycle phases (from requirements to design) and only the 25% of the grade will be devoted to the implementation of the solution.

The best submissions (up to 5) will pass the deliverable evaluation phase. The selected teams will be asked to keep working on the development of the proposed solution for a live demo. One or more representatives of these teams will be invited to demonstrate their projects to the final competition during ICSE 2015.

During the competition final winner will be selected and awarded by a local committee evaluating the technical quality of the demo (up to 80% of the evaluation grade) and the overall presentation of the project (up to 20% of the evaluation grade).
GRANTS AND RECOGNITIONS

To be considered for recognition, a project must exhibit the overall quality that is necessary to be selected as finalist. The summary reports of the projects that are selected as finalists will be published on the SCORE-it contest web site after the competition ends.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO FINALISTS

Free student registration to the whole conference will be offered to one member of all finalists. Based on the final budget, the ICSE 2015 conference will also support travel and accommodation expenses for the finalists.

More complete and precise details about financial support to finalists will be posted as soon as the whole conference budget is finalized and in any case before the deadline for the submission of the deliverable (Mid January 2015).

AWARDS

All finalists will be recognized at the main conference and a special award will be granted to the winner team.

Special recognition will be granted for outstanding work by a geographically distributed team. Teams competing in SCORE-it that would like to be considered for this award must include, in their summary report, a section explaining the issues related to distributed development with which they had to deal, and the approaches they took to tackle them.

Other special recognitions may be announced in the upcoming months.

TIMELINE (important dates)

The key dates and periods of the SCORE-it contest are the following.

1 March 2014: Publication of the SCORE-it website and dissemination of CFP.
1 March 2014: Team registration opens for teams intending to participate in the contest.
30 November 2014: Team registration closes.
15 February 2015: Deliverable submission deadline.
5 April 2015: deliverable evaluation from PC
15 April 2015: Announcement of the finalists (up to 5).
May 2015 @ ICSE : Final competition and presentation of the winning team.

The submission deadlines were fixed to encourage teams in a one-semester software engineering course to participate in the contest.
PROGRAM COMMITTEE

SCORE-it is co-chaired by Antinisca Di Marco (Università degli Studi di L'Aquila) and Guglielmo De Angelis (ISTI/IASI - CNR) and includes members both from academia and industry. Please refer to http://score-contest.it for the complete list.