

1 **File 2022 FAQS Updated 2021-09-17**

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3 ***Questions about the Competition***

4 Read and study all of the competition documents including this document to help your team  
5 understand this competition and its rules and requirements.

6 All of the competition documents are related, meaning that you must read every document in  
7 order to coordinate all of the pieces and ensure your teams' compliance.

8  
9 ***Why should my team ask a question?***

10 Your Team's understanding and interpretation of these documents is similar to executing any  
11 "competitive" work project.

12 Team questions are needed for the judges to provide clarity to all the teams as appropriate and  
13 improve this competition.

14 The judges understand that language barriers can exist in international competitions.

15 Therefore, sometimes teams misunderstand the judges, and sometimes judges misunderstand the  
16 teams.

17  
18 ***How should my team ask a question?***

19 Before asking any questions, please read all of the competition documents.

20 If your team asks a question for which the answer is in the competition documents, the judges'  
21 answer will be to "read the document".

22 Before your team asks a question, ask yourself if the answer will actually influence your team's  
23 decisions regarding your submission.

24  
25 Line numbers have been provided in most competition documents (see the Rules for example).  
26 Please include the appropriate line numbers to refer to the content that your team has questions  
27 about.

28 Line numbers allow the judges to pinpoint your question and provide a relevant answer.

29 If no line numbers are available, then include a limited screen capture for reference to help  
30 answer your questions.

31  
32 ***How and when are questions answered?***

33 Please submit your questions as soon as practical and not after the deadlines explained further  
34 below.

35 When a question is received, the judges will decide if the question is a competition question or a  
36 team question.

37 Competition questions are relevant to all teams (i.e. clarification of rules, submittal documents,  
38 etc.).

39 Team questions are relevant to that team only (i.e. clarification of team registration, contact  
40 email, etc.).

41 Every competition and team question will be answered by e-mail to the Team Contacts no later  
42 than 14 days after submittal.

43  
44 Competition questions must be submitted by February 16, 2022.

45 Competition questions submitted after this date will not be answered.

46 Competition questions and answers will be posted to the Competition webpage so that all Teams  
47 have the same information.

48 In order to communicate all competition questions and answers in a timely manner, they will be  
49 compiled on a monthly basis, amended to this FAQs document, and then the updated document  
50 re-posted according to these dates:

- 51 – September 17, 2021, see Page 4
- 52 – October 27, 2021
- 53 – November 24, 2021
- 54 – December 22, 2021
- 55 – January 26, 2022
- 56 – February 23, 2022

57 The updated FAQ document can be accessed at the same FAQS link on the Competition  
58 webpage.

59 Each time this document is posted the link name will reflect the date that it was posted (for  
60 example "FAQS >> POSTED 2021-10-27").

61 No team will be identified in the posted document.

62 Questions will be posted exactly as they are received; in other words, no corrections will be  
63 made for English grammar or spelling.

64 The compiled questions and answers will be in a line-numbered format (for example see Page 4  
65 of this PDF).

66  
67 Team questions should be submitted by March 24, 2022 in order for a response to be provided.

68 Team questions submitted after this date will be received but may not be answered.

69 Team questions will not be posted to the website.

70

71 ***Why are the questions responded to in the manner that they are answered?***

72 Judges provide answers that are very typical, similar, and consistent for all teams.

73 No questions are answered with an intent to give any team an advantage.

74 Questions are usually answered by citing the competition documents (for example “see the  
75 Rules”).

76 The answers also usually cite the competition documents’ relevant subheadings, line numbers,  
77 and or paragraph/sentence numbers.

78 General questions receive general answers.

79 Some questions are answered with “Judges will not answer.”

80

81 ***Why are some questions answered with “Judges will not answer”?***

82 Some of the reasons that questions are answered with “Judges will not answer” are as follows:

- 83 1. Judges will not answer questions about rules from previous competitions because those  
84 rules do not apply to the current competition.
- 85 2. Judges will not answer questions that are phrased as an implied question or that ask if a  
86 team understands a rule correctly or not.
- 87 3. Judges will not answer questions that ask for permission to do something or for their  
88 opinion on what a team wants to do. (For example: questions that include phrases such as  
89 “we plan on doing this ...” or “we want to do this ...” or “what do you think ...” or “can  
90 we do this ...”.)

- 91 4. Judges will not answer questions that are outside of the scope of the competition  
92 documents. If something is not stated in the competition documents, then there is nothing  
93 against what you want to do. In other words, permission is given to do whatever you want  
94 to do unless the competition documents state otherwise.
- 95 5. Judges will not answer questions that are your team’s decision. Understand that there  
96 may or may not be competition documents (rules) that are either for or against your team  
97 decision and the judges will not answer.
- 98 6. Judges will not answer if they don’t want to answer incorrectly, or with an answer to  
99 cause more questions, or with an answer that changes the established competition  
100 documents.
- 101 7. Judges will not answer competition questions that were submitted after the deadline of  
102 February 16, 2022.
- 103

104 Judges are not required to identify the reason for “no answer” responses (i.e. one of the reasons  
105 listed above).

106 If the team still needs an answer, then consider rephrasing and resubmitting “no answer”  
107 questions.

108 Please keep and use the appropriate email trail for the judge’s context and keep aware of the  
109 question type for submittal deadlines.

110

111 ***Who do we send our questions to?***

112 Only team contacts are to send any and all questions via e-mail only.

113 A confirmation email will be returned after a question is received.

114 Questions should have an appropriate Subject line (as shown below) and sent to the following  
115 email address:

116

117 [students@concrete.org](mailto:students@concrete.org)

118 Subject: Your school’s acronym – subject of question

119 Address to: Rachel Belcher

120

121 Note – This email address ([students@concrete.org](mailto:students@concrete.org)) should be used for any and all  
122 communication with ACI regarding a team’s participation in the competition.

<b>Questions and Answers as of September 17, 2021</b>		
210917-01	Q	What will the questions and answers appear like in this PDF document?
	A	The questions and answers will be numbered as follows: YYMMDD-NN. Where YYMMDD is the posted date (see Lines 52-57 of FAQs document) and NN is a sequential number assigned to Competition questions as they are received from the teams.
210917-02	Q	Why are the questions numbered?
	A	The questions are numbered to allow the judges to refer to previously answered questions. For example: See Answer to Question 210917-01.
210917-03	Q	Why are there no Competition questions in this PDF document?
	A	This PDF document was completed before the Competition was posted to the web (note the date). The judges have not yet received any questions to answer. This PDF document is to show all participants how the Competition questions will be answered.
End of Update September 17, 2021		