

## **EVENT 6: PRINGLES EVENT**

(Dated 12/8/2016)

**OBJECTIVE:** To design the smallest container that will enable two Pringles chips to be sent through the U.S. Mail without damage.

### **RULES:**

- a. The team will determine and implement a strategy to mail two Pringles chips safely through the U.S. Mail.
- b. The mailing package must meet all U.S. Postal Service safety and mailing regulations.
- c. Materials that can leak out of the package or cause damage to other mailed items are not to be used.
- d. The package must be bigger than 5 inches by 3 inches by 2 inches (12.7cm X 7.62cm X 5.08cm) and smaller than 6 inches by 5 inches by 8 inches (15.24cm X 12.7cm X 20.32cm).
- e. Within the package, enclose the Pringles in a sealed ziplock-style plastic bag from which the Pringles can be visually inspected and then easily removed by the judge(s).
- f. Both Pringles must be unaltered in any fashion.
- g. The two Pringles must arrive oriented in some fashion other than their trademark stackable and nested configuration.
- h. Only one entry per team.
- i. Using the U.S. Postal Service, mail the Pringle container to the following address:

John Valente  
Marine Academy of Science & Technology  
Bldg. #305  
MAST Way  
Sandy Hook, NJ 07732

- j. Mail **without** requiring return receipt signature.
- k. The Pringle package must arrive by January 1, 2017. Once received, the team will receive a confirmation email. If no email is received, it is the team's responsibility to notify the event organizers and to mail a second package to arrive by January 9, 2017. The team must provide a U.S. Postal receipt as evidence that the original package was mailed to arrive by the due date. *To ensure that the Judge(s) receive your entry, it is recommended that you mail as soon as possible.*

### **COMPETITION AND SCORING:**

- a. When received by the judge(s) the unopened package will be stored in **non-climate controlled outside shed** until the day of the event.
- b. The unopened package will be transported to the event by car.
- c. The package must be marked on the outside for easy identification as to school and team.
- d. In front of the judge(s), the team will open and remove the plastic bag containing the pringles.
- e. The judges will examine the Pringles while still in the plastic bag to visually check their condition and determine their orientation. The Pringles will then be removed from the plastic bag and judged according to the additional following criteria: the Pringles must be unblemished, naturally colored and have no cracks or damage.
- f. Pringles meeting these criteria will be judged as surviving the mailing process.
- g. Pringles that are damaged during the normal process of removing them from their containers/wrappings will be judged as having failed to survive.
- h. Pringles that arrive unbroken and without cracks but failing the other criteria will receive the disqualification score.
- i. The team's score will be calculated by adding together the numerical value of the package's volume, in cubic centimeters, and mass, in grams, together, i.e., a volume of 25 cubic centimeters and a mass of 25 grams will receive a score of 50 points.
- j. The team with the lowest score wins.
- k. In case of a tie, the package mailed using the smallest amount of postage will win.
- l. If the tie-breaking procedure is used, the winning team with the lowest postage will have their score decreased by 10%. Their adjusted score will then become the new winning (lowest) score. For example, a team receiving a winning score of 50 and also having the lowest postage will receive a score of 45.

$$\text{SCORE} = \frac{(\text{Your score})}{(\text{Lowest score})} \times 100$$

**DISQUALIFICATION SCORE:** 20 points above the highest score.

Updates to the rules and frequently asked questions with answers are available by e-mailing the event organizers at [jvalente@ctemc.org](mailto:jvalente@ctemc.org). It is the team's responsibility to periodically inquire about changes and clarifications to the rules.