

Display and Safety Guidelines for Posters

Please make sure your project display meets all ISEF rules. Here are some pointers. If you have any questions, please contact Display and Safety Chair Dale Weegman at Display@mnmas.org.

The following is taken directly from the ISEF web site display and safety page. The bolded underlined items are the most common violations we have at the state science fair. Please do everything you can to abide by these rules. Remember pictures say a thousand words! Instead of bringing in items, **TAKE PICTURES!**

Not Allowed at Project or in Booth

- 1) Living organisms, **including plants and fruit flies!**
- 2) **Taxidermy** specimens or parts
- 3) **Preserved** vertebrate or **invertebrate animals**
- 4) Human or animal food **including popcorn**
- 5) Human/animal parts or body fluids (for example, blood, urine) (**Exceptions:** teeth, hair, nails, dried animal bones, histological dry mount sections, and completely sealed wet mount tissue slides)
- 6) Plant materials (living, dead or preserved) usually which were part of the scientific experimentation and which are in their raw, unprocessed, or non-manufactured state (Exception: manufactured construction materials used in building the project or display)
- 7) **Laboratory/household chemicals including water** (Exceptions: water integral to an enclosed apparatus or water supplied by the Display and Safety Committee) **Please note this includes bottles with residue and toothpaste!**
- 8) Poisons, drugs, controlled substances, hazardous substances or devices (for example, firearms, weapons, **ammunition**, reloading devices)
- 9) Dry ice or other sublimating solids
- 10) Sharp items (for example, **syringes, needles, pipettes**, knives)
- 11) Flames or highly flammable materials
- 12) Batteries with open-top cells
- 13) Awards, medals, business cards, flags, **acknowledgements (this means you can not say “Thank you to Dr. Jones on your display, an acknowledgement can be made in the paper)** etc. (Exception: The current year Intel ISEF medal may be worn at all times.)
- 14) Photographs or other visual presentations depicting vertebrate animals in surgical techniques, dissections, necropsies, or other lab procedures
- 15) Active Internet or e-mail connections as part of displaying or operating the project at the Intel ISEF

Allowed at Project or in Booth, BUT with the Restrictions Indicated

- 1) Soil or waste samples **if permanently sealed in a slab of acrylic**
- 2) Postal, Web and e-mail addresses, telephone and fax numbers **of finalist only**
- 3) Only photographs (that is, visual depictions) of the Finalist, the Finalist's family, photographs taken by the Finalist, and/or photographs for which credit is displayed (such as from magazines, newspapers, journals, etc.) **if not deemed offensive** by the Scientific Review Committee, The Display and Safety Committee or Science Service

- 4) Any apparatus with unshielded belts, pulleys, chains, or moving parts with tension or pinch points **if for display only and not operated**
- 5) Class II lasers **if**:
 - a) Operated only by the Finalist.
 - b) Operated only during Display and Safety inspection and during judging
 - c) Labeled with a sign reading "Laser Radiation: Do Not Stare Into Beam."
 - d) Enclosed in protective housing that prevents physical and visual access to beam.
 - e) Disconnected when not operating.
- 6) Class III and IV lasers **if for display and not operated**
- 7) Large vacuum tubes or dangerous ray-generating devices **if properly shielded.**
- 8) Pressurized tanks that contained non-combustibles **if properly secured.**
- 9) Any apparatus producing temperatures that will cause physical burns **if adequately insulated**

Electrical Regulations at the Intel ISEF

- 1) Finalists requiring 120 or 220 Volt A.C. electrical circuits must provide a UL-listed 3-wire extension cord which is appropriate for the load and equipment.
- 2) Electrical power supplied to projects and, therefore, the maximums allowed for projects is 120 or 220 Volt, A.C., single phase, 60 cycle. Maximum circuit amperage/wattage available is determined by the electrical circuit capacities of the exhibit hall and may be adjusted on-site by the Display and Safety Committee. For all electrical regulations, "120 Volt A.C." or "220 Volt A.C." is intended to encompass the corresponding range of voltage as supplied by the facility in which the Intel ISEF is being held.
- 3) All electrical work must conform to the National Electrical Code or exhibit hall regulations. The guidelines presented here are general ones, and other rules may apply to specific configurations. The onsite electrician may be requested to review electrical work on any project.
- 4) All electrical connectors, wiring, switches, extension cords, fuses, etc. must be UL-listed and must be appropriate for the load and equipment. Connections must be soldered or made with UL-listed connectors. Wiring, switches, and metal parts must have adequate insulation and overcurrent safety devices (such as fuses) and must be inaccessible to anyone but the Finalist. Exposed electrical equipment or metal that is liable to be energized must be grounded or shielded with a non-conducting material or with a grounded metal box or cage to prevent accidental contact.
- 5) Wiring which is not part of a commercially available UL-listed appliance or piece of equipment must have a fuse or circuit breaker on the supply side of the power source and prior to any project equipment.
- 6) There must be an accessible, clearly visible on/off switch or other means of disconnect from the 120 or 220 volt power source.

Maximum Size of Project at the Intel ISEF

30 inches (76 centimeters) deep

48 inches (122 centimeters) wide

108 inches (274 centimeters) high including table