



Conference: September 21-25, 2026
BMO Centre at Stampede Park, Calgary, AB Canada
<https://ipceyvc.com>

Competition Guidelines

- A full-length paper must be officially submitted to the IPC electronically via the web according to ASME conference guidelines.
- At least one author must be enrolled as a University Graduate or Undergraduate student in 2025 or 2026.
- While other authors may be listed on the paper, the student must have contributed the majority of the effort presented and in the writing of the paper (preferably as the first author).
- The selected finalists will be requested to provide a letter of support from their supervisor.
- Finalists will be notified after acceptance of final papers have been determined through the regular IPC peer review process. Finalists will then be judged by a committee of pipeline experts selected by the IPC Organizing Committee and two winners announced.
- If chosen as a winner, the student author must commit to attend the conference and present their paper in their assigned session. All other finalists will present their paper in accordance with the usual IPC policies for any paper.

The call for the student paper competition can be found at:

[Best Student Paper Competition](#)

IPC 2026 Best Student Paper Award Committee Review Process

- The Best Student Paper Award process involves the independent review of the final written paper only.
- The reviewers need to complete the IPC 2026 Best Student Paper Scoring Sheet provided to them.
- The reviewer should be independent from the authors, their employer, or the research sponsors.
- It is essential to have at least two reviewers for every paper to obtain a balanced view of paper quality.

Student Paper Review:

Papers are assigned to reviewers who rate each paper on the following criteria:

10 points – Industry Relevance

- Is the content in the paper applicable to real-world pipeline design, integrity management, operations or regulatory practice?
- Provides solutions or insights that enhance operational efficiency, safety, sustainability, or technological advancement within the field.

10 points – Literature Review



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- Does the paper identify and summarize the most relevant, credible, and up-to-date technical sources, including standards, peer-reviewed research, and industry best practices related to the topic?
- Does the paper go beyond a simple summary by comparing findings across sources, highlighting gaps or limitations in existing work, and showing how the current study builds on or differs from prior research?
- Assesses whether the literature review effectively frames the technical problem, establishes the need for the study, and connects existing knowledge to the paper's objectives, methodology, or engineering application.

15 points – Technical Quality and Accuracy

- Student showcases accuracy of engineering principles, sound methodology, appropriate assumptions, and correct use of data or models.
- Are the paper's assumptions, data sources, and analytical steps logically consistent, properly justified, and supported by evidence, resulting in conclusions that are reliable, reproducible, and technically defensible?

10 points – Originality and Innovation

- Has the material ever been seen before?
- Are there new concepts, techniques or methods being discussed?
- Is there an element of creativity or inventiveness being presented of classical techniques to solve engineering problems?

15 points – Clarity and Completeness

- ASME provides specific criteria on the organization of the paper. Some of the key criteria include:

Title	Brief, descriptive
Abstract	Clear indication of object, scope and results
Body of Paper	Logical organization, purpose, description of problem, means of solution, results and conclusions
Symbols	Recommended symbols used; usually symbols adequately defined; SI units required
Bibliography	Footnotes if only four or five references; otherwise listed at end of paper
Illustration	Clear black and white prints of all line drawings, graphs, and photographs. Graphs should be free of all non-essential lines and lettering; coordinate rulings should be limited in number
Length	Should not exceed 12 printed pages (8.5 x 11" or equivalent)
Style	The paper should be well written, conform to recognized standards of literary style, and be readily understandable to engineers in the field of interest of the paper

- There is a clear statement of the problem, objectives, scope and motivation behind the paper.
- All components presented logically contribute to the integrity of the whole work.



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- This is a rating of the author's ability to formulate a technical piece of work at a professional level.
- Is there clarity in writing, tables, graphs, and illustrations.
- Does the student exhibit effective choice of words; correct sentence structure, spelling, & punctuation?
- Graphic Quality: accurate and skillful use of formulae, graphs and diagrams, as these exist to complement written text.

5 points – Acknowledgment and References

- References to prior work are expected in a well-prepared technical paper.
- Within the text, references should be cited in numerical order according to their order of appearance.
- The numbered reference citation within text should be enclosed in brackets.
- References are to be both adequate in number and detailed, using the ASME-recommended Chicago Manual of Style for reference format (<http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/>).

65 points total maximum

Final Selection:

Calculate the average of the reviewer ratings for each paper as per the template. The top two papers will have the highest average rating.