Basics of an Abstract

What is an Abstract? (Written After the Completion of Investigation)

- A short summary of the experiment (250 words or less) as to **WHAT WAS DONE**.
- Use the **PAST TENSE**! **Make sure the method is in the PAST TENSE!!!**
- Submit the Official Abstract/Certification Form on-line with Scienteer on www.scienteer.com
  A sample of the Official Abstract/Certification form is found on the ARASE www.arase.org.
- Follow instructions. Proof-read carefully before submitting it on Scienteer. Save it!
- Check for spelling errors and sentence structure. The Abstract is the first thing judges read.

The Official Abstract and Certification Form (250 words or less)

Header (top box):

First, type Title of project. Then type student's name on second line.

The last line should have the School Name, City and State and Country.

Team projects need both team members' names

Body (bottom box):

- Single space. Use 11 or 12 pt. type font. **Use the PAST TENSE**. It is a summary.
- Start typing **right under** Header. Indent or start at the left margin. DO NOT type the title "Abstract". It is already on the form!!!
- Body should be written in **PARAGRAPH** form and **NOT** outlined. Start with a **brief INTRODUCTION** (rationale, purpose/problem/ goal and hypothesis).
- Give a brief **PROCEDURE** in the **PAST TENSE** and **results** (discussion of data).
- End with a **CONCLUSION referring to** the question, **problem** or hypothesis (if stated).
- A Practical Application of study may be included.
- Remember that the Body is **written** in the **PAST TENSE** (**WHAT WAS DONE!!!**).
- **Do not** mention names of individuals or institutions!!!
- **Category:** Place an "X" in the category column on the right side of the form.
- **Questions:** Answer the **6** questions below the Body Box where applicable.
- **NOTE: SAVE**, **SUBMIT**, and **PRINT** a copy of the approved Abstract with SRC Stamp for the display board. Print at least 8 of the stamped abstract for judges.

What NOT to Do

- **DO NOT** mention names of individuals, institutions, companies, etc.
- **DO NOT** staple, cut and paste or handwrite on the Official Abstract Form.
- **DO NOT** describe previous year's work.
- **DO NOT** use **PRESENT TENSE or FUTURE TENSE**.

Note. A **stamped** abstract with the approval stamp indicates the student has **SRC CLEARANCE** and can set-up the display. The stamped Abstract can be mounted on the **UPPER LEFT SIDE** of the display board **or** it can be vertically standing on the exhibit table or secured to the front edge of the exhibit table.