

National Demolition Association - Excellence in Demolition Scoring Criteria

Total points available: 50 points

Project Distinction. & Uniqueness (5 points)

1 point - Minimal	2 points - Limited	3 points - Moderate	4 points - Strong	5 points - Exceptional
Generic or vague response; lacks clear differentiation	Mentions some aspects, but lacks clarity, relevance, or supporting detail	Some unique elements, but not well explained. Shows potential but lacks depth or strong examples	Clearly identifies what makes the project unique, with relevant context and supporting details that demonstrate thoughtful execution	Provides a compelling, well-articulated explanation of the project's uniqueness, supported by specific examples, comparisons, or innovations that clearly set it apart from industry norms.

Challenge Management & Problem Solving (5 points)

1 point - Minimal	2 points - Limited	3 points - Moderate	4 points - Strong	5 points - Exceptional
Response lacks clarity or detail; challenges are vaguely mentioned with little to no explanation of how they were addressed.	Identifies a challenge but provides minimal insight into the resolution; lacks relevance or depth.	Describes one or more challenges with basic explanation of how they were managed; shows some problem-solving effort.	Clearly outlines significant challenges and provides thoughtful, relevant solutions; demonstrates effective problem-solving.	Highlights complex or unexpected challenges and presents creative, strategic, or innovative solutions with measurable or visible impact on project success.

Innovation in Methods, Tools, or Technology (5 points)

1 point - Minimal	2 points - Limited	3 points - Moderate	4 points - Strong	5 points - Exceptional
No innovation described, or response is vague and lacks relevance to the project.	Mentions method, tool, or technology, but with minimal detail or unclear connection to project outcomes.	Describes one or more innovations with basic explanation of their use and value to the project.	Clearly explains how innovative methods, tools, or technologies were applied, with relevant context and demonstrated benefits.	Highlights significant or cutting-edge innovations that enhanced project performance, safety, or sustainability; includes strong justification and measurable or visible impact.

Safety Planning & Performance (5 points)

1 point - Minimal	2 points - Limited	3 points - Moderate	4 points - Strong	5 points - Exceptional
Safety measures are vaguely described or appear to be limited to basic compliance; lacks detail or relevance to the project.	Mentions standard safety practices, but with minimal explanation or project-specific context; unclear how they were applied or monitored.	Describes relevant safety protocols with some detail; shows awareness of risks and outlines general steps taken to manage them.	Provides a clear, well-structured safety plan tailored to the project; includes proactive measures to protect workers, the public, and the environment.	Demonstrates a comprehensive and innovative safety strategy with clear evidence of planning, execution, and measurable outcomes; includes advanced practices or technologies that go beyond industry norms.

Project Sustainability & Environmental Innovation (5 points)

1 point - Minimal	2 points - Limited	3 points - Moderate	4 points - Strong	5 points - Exceptional
No sustainability practices described, or response is vague and lacks relevance to the project.	Mentions basic or standard practices (e.g., recycling) with little detail or innovation; limited environmental impact.	Describes one or more sustainability efforts with some explanation of their purpose and outcomes; shows awareness of environmental responsibility.	Clearly outlines multiple sustainability practices with project-specific context; demonstrates thoughtful planning and measurable environmental benefits.	Highlights innovative or exemplary sustainability strategies that go beyond industry norms; includes strong justification, creative approaches, and clear evidence of environmental impact or long-term benefit.

Community Impact (5 points)

1 point - Minimal	2 points - Limited	3 points - Moderate	4 points - Strong	5 points - Exceptional
No clear efforts to minimize disruption or support the local community. Response is vague or lacks relevance to the project's impact. No use of local workforce or materials is evident.	Mentions basic or standard practices with little detail. Limited use of local resources or workforce. Minimal contribution to local economic development.	Describes one or more efforts to reduce disruption or engage the community. Some use of local labor or materials. Shows awareness of local economic impact but lacks depth or measurable outcomes.	Clearly outlines multiple community-focused practices with project-specific context. Demonstrates thoughtful planning to minimize disruption, use local resources, and support economic development.	Highlights innovative or exemplary strategies that go beyond standard practices. Includes strong justification, creative approaches, and clear evidence of positive community impact and long-term local benefit.

Poster Submission Score (10 points)

Category	Points	Evaluation Focus
1. Project Overview & Uniqueness	0-3 points	Clear summary of the project and what makes it stand out.
2. Award Components addressed	0-4 points	How well the poster addresses key themes: Sustainability, Community Enhancement, Environmental Enterprise, Education, Pollution Prevention, Resource Conservation, or Special Project Considerations.
3. Project Stats	0-1 points	Inclusion of relevant high-level data
4. Visual Presentation & Design	0-2 points	Overall layout, readability, creativity, and visual appeal of the poster.

Judges Discretionary Score (10 points)

The discretionary score allows judges to award up to 10 additional points based on their overall impression of the project and poster submission. While not tied to a specific question, this score gives judges the flexibility to recognize exceptional qualities that may not be fully captured in the standard rubric.

Judges may consider factors such as:

- Overall impact, innovation, or complexity of project
- Exceptional story telling or presentation
- Alignment with values of the Excellence in Demolition Award
- Project statistics