

2014 Pacific Northwest Technical Symposium
Attendee Survey

49 total respondent sheets; not all questions had responses

1. Is this your *first* Pacific Northwest Technical Symposium, or have you been to others before?

36 This my first one of these

13 I've been to others in

9 2013

4 2012

9 2011

2 2010

1 2009

9 once before

2 two before

1 three before:

6 2013

1 2013 + 2012 +2011

2 2013 + 2012

1 2012

1 2012 + 2010

1 ~2010

1 2009

2. If you've been to others before, was this one pretty much the *same* as the others, or noticeably *different*?

5 Pretty much the same

7 Noticeably different, in these ways:

<i>Positive</i>	<i>Observation</i>	<i>Negative</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better venue • More interesting speakers. • About the same (in a good way) • Very interesting to see emerging science and developments • Speed mentoring was less forceful in moving people from table to table which I thought was good. I picked who to talk to for longer instead of forced 5 minute shifts with all mentors • Better facility • Advance communication was better: maps, talks, presenter bios • Boeing confirmed sooner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More space focused than last year but still seemed pretty balanced aero/astro wise. • Smaller than other conferences • More diverse topics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fewer technical talks

3. Was this year's symposium better or worse than you expected, and in what ways?

35 Better than I expected

7 As expected

1 Worse than I expected

...in what ways:

<i>Better</i>	<i>Observation</i>	<i>Worse</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I was impressed with the general quality of the speakers, the range of subjects addressed and the challenging nature of presentation material. It's not often my attention is kept so persistently! • Diverse presentations kept me engaged • Open environment • Very well planned • Good venue! • The content was very detailed • I attended 3rd symposium and this one is better, with more appropriate location • Mentor session: was able to stay at table > 10 minutes if no one waiting • Diverse pool of presentations and even presentations I didn't expect to enjoy I found very interesting • Variety of topics/speakers/mentors • Diversity of attendees and topics • Remarkable variety of topics spanning huge range of technologies • Great talks! • The catering was great, the talks were fascinating, and the networking opportunities were much more laid back than I thought they would be. The speed mentoring especially was great. • I liked the offering of both tech focused presentations alongside the business focused presentations. Also was pleasantly surprised by the catering selection; Alexa's is a favorite of mine. • Space topics were of interest rather than all aircraft topics • Lots of fantastic innovation happening • Good topics, speakers, theme. Consistent them on innovation that is relevant. Good venue and food. Good location. Good length. • The topics discussed were very interesting and it was interesting to see what is in the works presently in the industry • I learned a lot and found the talks to be very informative and interesting • Interesting topics and discussions • Subjects were interesting and inspiring • Wide variety of topics • Interesting • Very nice variety in presentations; lunch was very good • I learned several concepts about starting a new business and what needs to be considered • The mentor sessions were valuable • Most talks were interesting; more than implied by the descriptions. I suppose it comes down to speaker ability • There were many great speakers who held my interest • Lots of space topics and ample opportunity to network • The speakers, organizers, support staff and food • The contents are very eye opening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lot less about aviation; more about space and maritime than expected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fewer technical talks • Food could be more varied

4. How did you *find out* about the symposium?
- 22 I'm on the *email* list and I found out that way
 - 9 Someone *forwarded* the email to me
 - 6 Someone *told me* about it in person
 - 5 I *read* about it somewhere else

Some other way I *do* remember, which is:

- 18 Ed Wells (incl SPEEA)
- 1 Forwarded to me by my direct supervisor
- 1 AIAA member
- 1 through Boeing

5. Which session or sessions did you *like*:

Best & Next Best (combined mentions)
16 Bloodhound
16 Nanosatellites panel
11 Surfing Vortices
7 Beating Betz
6 Aquarius
6 RL Speed Mentoring
5 What pay to fly
4 Dispatches from the Edge
4 Practical Toolbox
4 Next Gen Airspace
4 Business models panel
3 RL Keynote
3 Commercializing new tech
3 Survival Capsule
2 Pelastar
2 MOOC
2 Intellectual Property
“very hard decision; I liked so many”

6. "Would you *come back* again next year? (please comment if you have thoughts about it)

- 45 Yes, I'd come back next year
- 0 No, I wouldn't come back next year

Comments:

Positive	Middling	Negative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location • Very well organized. The material was relevant to the aerospace industry and comprehensive • The panel on nanosatellites really inspired me to “change the world” • I would also love to help do some planning • It's awesome to see cutting edge technology • Sessions were very valuable • It was really fun • Broaden my network and contemporary issues • I'm looking forward to the next one 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I would consider attending once every other year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acoustics • Would like more networking • Want more technical talks • Have pens for the survey or have survey online • Suggest gluten free options (“no gluten added” enough) • Speed mentoring turned into group informational interviews; would be better if it could be fewer people seated per mentor

7. Would you recommend the symposium to your colleagues who didn't attend this year?

41 Yes, I'd recommend they attend

0 No, I wouldn't recommend they attend

What would you say about it when recommending, or not recommending:

<i>Say when recommending</i>	<i>Recommendations</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant • Low key • More interesting than most conferences • Mentor sessions • It helps to meet other professionals and learn about other areas and emerging technologies • I would tell them that it is pretty insightful of what is currently being explored • It's great for networking, seeing the state of the industry and getting general knowledge • Keep learning and networking; bring business cards • How cool the panels were and the great food • Lots of different interesting topics • You can learn new concepts and meet other engineers who are doing interesting jobs • Learn new concepts • Very easy to talk to everyone • It's a great place to learn and network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education on current aerospace industry work • Opportunity to network and get advice • Mentor sessions • New tech such as superconducting power