How does Facilithon look to my chapter?

The Facilithon is a unique competitive event in facilities management through SkillsUSA, America’s second largest CTSO. It not only connects to high school students, it activates your “quiet FM’s” and chapter elders while allowing your chapter to own the winning outcome, as many SkillsUSA grads oft stay or come back home. There is also an opportunity for your general chapter membership to participate and judge the Facilithon at your state SkillsUSA conference, which has attributes of a great golf outing, without the cost.

The first year run in Wisconsin was a stunning success, with 30 student registrants and over 1000 students and staff participating in the interactive Facilithon presentation, an 8 minute primer that shares why facilities management is right for this unique group and why personal attributes are more important than overt curriculum. The Facilithon is a springboard, not curriculum, nor classwork; it doesn’t need to be. Leave the schooling to ADP’s and big money theorists, we’re their seed.

The FM Pipeline team has perfected the WI model and connected to SkillsUSA nationally, ensuring your chapter’s success through recognized liaison and a very well-designed roadmap. The roadmap is critical to your success without sacking chapter team resources, a key benefit of our program.

The Facilithon competition is 3-part competitive event consisting of a 50 question test, 5 minute role-play and the FM Challenge, an impromptu emergency scenario. In your first year, your chapter will run this at your state’s SkillsUSA state conference, typically in April.

If you’re reading this, you already have a Chapter Champion; a special individual who is passionate enough about this to spend several days this year engaging with SkillsUSA faculty, students and your chapter to pull this amazing program launch off. Theirs is challenging and rewarding work.

FM Pipeline team only approves SkillsUSA connections with this unique individual and board approval of a dedicated ad-hoc team. Your champion will have a partner, the Event Manager, to share the primary responsibility of attendance at district and regional SkillsUSA events, in addition to recruiting some “quiet FM’s” to assist in Facilithon marketing from December through March.

Facilithon marketing involves an 8 minute interactive presentation delivered by your Champion at conferences and “Wiggly Guy”, a surprisingly effective action-figure that illuminates the personal attributes of the perfect FM student candidate. Wiggly guy truly changed the game, see www.fmpipeline.org to learn more about its amazing effect on instructors.

The Facilithon cost minimal per its output and effect. As a paper event, running it merely requires copies of The Facilithon 2016©, plain paper. Minimal marketing costs include printing leaflets locally ($40), booth and posters, best donated by architectural firm, who have large format printers and Wiggly guys contribution, likely $200 for 100 units. We suggest a scholarship for your winner.

By approving your ad-hoc Facilithon team, your chapter has just added an amazing new activity, subject matter for monthly meetings and a revolutionary cause, satisfying what chapters long for.

The Facilithon, © FM Pipeline team 2014
The SkillsUSA Year

**November**- State SkillsUSA approves your participation & determines whether initial Facilithon will be run at State Conference. Champion Recruits “Quiet FM’s” for team participation at district and regional events. Some states hold fall leadership conference, students' intro to SkillsUSA

**December**- early March – your team (& other state IFMA chapters) attend district and regional conferences.

**March**- SkillsUSA reports your state participant count & holds technical team meeting, attended by champ and event manager. Chapter champion recruits regular members to judge at state conference. Promoted like a golf outing- this requires several judges and an exam proctor.

**April**- Facilithon launch at state conference. Champion and event manager run it, 2 judges needed for each 8 contestants. Consider a scholarship and student membership for winners if you can.

**Note**- Each State has minor differences derivative of geography or organizational structure, so the above dates and standards vary. Don’t worry, this is all published on each states’ website and the FM pipeline team will help negotiate and navigate your chapter’s journey toward great success on several levels. When run correctly, the Facilithon truly is your chapter answer.