

Rather Useful Seminars

The Microsoft Imagine Cup

## The Imagine Cup

- The Imagine Cup is a student competition that has been running for 10 years
- It is open to students from anywhere in the world
- At Hull we have the best track record in the competition of any UK University

## Some History...

- A team of Hull University First Year Students won the first ever UK Imagine Cup Finals and went on to come third in the World Finals in Barcelona
- I was the mentor for that team



## Some More History...

- In 2006 teams from Hull came First, Second and Third in the UK finals
- No other university has ever managed this



# Last Bit of History...



- Since 2007 I've been a judge on the Imagine Cup and since 2009 I've been Software Development Challenge Competition Captain

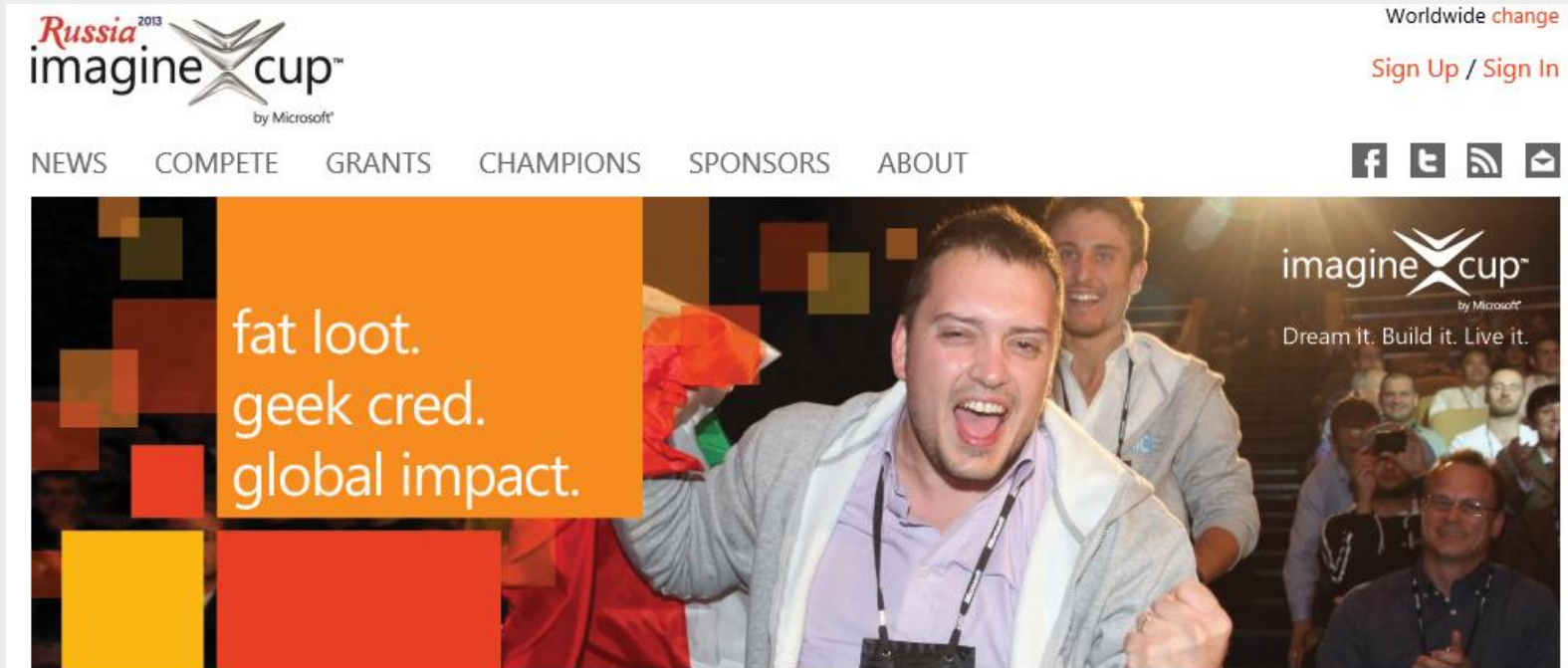
# The Imagine Cup Competition

- There are a number of different competition categories
- You can enter as many (or as few) as you like
  - You need to enter a different project for each category though
- Many of the categories are team based

## How the competition works

- Each strand has a slightly different way of working
- All of the categories have a number of different rounds
- Teams progress from one round to another

## A Tour of the Imagine Cup Site



[www.imaginecup.com](http://www.imaginecup.com)



## What do you need to win?

- An idea
  - Good ones are best
- A team
  - Mixed range of skills are best (either bring them in or acquire them)
- Persistence
  - It is hard work, but very rewarding

## What do you win?

- There are some really nice cash prizes
  - \$50,000 first prize for each competition
- But you might get something even more valuable
  - Three of the first Imagine Cup team are now working at Redmond for Microsoft
  - All of the students that have taken part in the competition have gained from it

## What to do next

- Register on the web site
- Take a look at the categories and start working on ideas
- See about building a team
- Keep in touch with me