

2005 FIRST Robotics Competition

February 4, 2005

Team Update

08

→ Special Notices ←

See “**Question & Answer Items of Note**” near the end of this update. It clarifies important information about Bimba cylinders.

→ General Notices ←

Documents and Updates

FIRST will provide important information to teams via the FIRST web site at:

http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/doc_updt.htm

Please check the team updates portion of the web site on a regular basis to insure that your team does not miss critical information about the 2005 FIRST Robotics Competition.

Our schedule to publish Team Updates is:

- Tuesday by 5PM and Friday by 10AM. We work hard to meet these commitments. Unexpected circumstances may, on occasions, delay their publication.
- Additional updates may be released if required.

Question & Answer System

Please review answers to questions in the Question & Answer System daily before submitting a new question (see instructions below).

The Question & Answer System can be found at: <http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/2005/qa.htm>

1. Please ask one question at a time.
2. Questions are limited to 240 characters.

<u>Find Q&A Answered After a certain date</u>	<u>Find an Individual Q&A ID</u>
Leave Section set to All	Enter question ID # in the ID field
Set Date to After	Press Update Filter
Enter the appropriate date in the next field	
Leave Search blank	
Set Status to Answered	
Press Update Filter	

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Section 0 - Introduction

No changes.

Section 1 - Communication

No changes.

Section 2 – Team Organization

No changes.

Section 3 - The Arena

➤ NOTICE about: Practice areas at events

FIRST will be providing the materials and field elements for a practice setup at every regional event. It will be setup by volunteers and if venue space allows. FIRST staff will not man it. The area will be a 15' x 30' carpet with field markings and will have:

- 1 center goal
- 1 corner goal with hanging tetra
- 1 vision tetra
- 1 side goal
- 2 automatic loading stations
- Tetras

Section 4 - The Game

➤ MODIFY rule: G14

<G14> Field attendants will place TETRAS on the Tetra Loading Stations on the side of the field opposite the HUMAN PLAYERS (i.e. the “automated” LOADING ZONE). A ROBOT must enter the corresponding LOADING ZONE to retrieve the TETRA from the Loading Station, and enter it into play. *If a robot touches a Loading Station tetra before it is in the LOADING ZONE, the offending alliance will be assessed a 10-point penalty and the tetra will not be scored.* The HUMAN PLAYER does not have to leave the pressure pad sensor during this operation. When the TETRA is removed from the Loading Station and the ROBOT has left the LOADING ZONE, the field attendant will place a new TETRA on the Loading Station at the first safe opportunity. Robots may not intentionally interfere with field attendant’s efforts to place TETRAS on the Loading Stations.

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Section 5. The Robot (includes the Kit of Parts)

ROBOT

No changes.

KIT

➤ **CAUTION advised regarding: Locktite and plastic**

Locktite reacts with many plastics. Be careful!

➤ **INFORMATION on the: TTL-232 Converter Board and CMU Camera Kit**

The TTL to RS-232 Converter Board was previously only available as part of the CMU Camera 2 Kit. It is now available on the IFI web page, CMUcam2 Vision System, as a separate item.

<http://www.ifirobotics.com/camera.shtml>

The CAMERA-CMU-2 kit is also available but you must call Innovation First to purchase this item.

Section 6 – Robot Transportation

No changes.

Section 7 – At the Events

No changes.

Section 8 – The Tournament

➤ **CHANGE in: Section 8.4.3.1 Order of Match Play**

The 5th bullet in both sections under 8.4.3.1 should refer to 8.4.4, not 8.4.5.

Section 9 – The Awards

No changes.

Section 10 - Scholarships

No changes.

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FIRST Guidelines, Tips & Good Practices

No changes.

E-Mail Blasts Sent Since Last Update

None.

Question & Answer Items of Note

➤ #1335 and #1385

There has been significant discussion regarding pneumatics, in particular what Bimba cylinders were allowable. The revised answer to #1335 and the answer to #1385 follow:

#1335

CORRECTED ANSWER 2/3/2005 AT 1330.

CORRECTED ANSWER

The manual is correct. It tells you to go to the Bimba site for all of the available sizes.

Old Answer

The pneumatics manual takes precedence.

#1385

WE APOLOGIZE FOR THE OBVIOUS CONFUSION WE HAVE INFLICTED UPON TEAMS, PARTICULARLY BY OUR ANSWER TO #1335. We were correct in our answer (the manual takes precedence) as it points you to the Bimba site, but we were far from clear. We will clarify the answer to #1335.

As the Pneumatics Manual states very clearly on P19...

Please check the Bimba web site for available strokes in each bore size.

These are the cylinders you can use.

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Other Items of Note

➤ NEW SITE INFORMATION for: Several locations

Sacramento Regional - Drayage address change

- MCS / Jevic Transportation
C/O Forward Air
1020 Striker Avenue, Suite 160
Sacramento, CA 95834

Silicon Valley Regional – Local restaurants and a lunch pre-ordering opportunity

- There is updated information regarding local restaurants and lunch pre-ordering opportunity.

Midwest Regional – Heading change

- Heading 18.2 now reads “University of Illinois at Chicago.”

Great Lakes Regional – Information about food.

- There is new information about pre-ordering food.

For the links to all events, go to:

<http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/2005/rgevents.htm>

Teams attending these events should print and distribute the section to team members.