

# 2005 FIRST Robotics Competition

February 8, 2005

Team Update

09

## → Special Notices ←

There are no -> Special Notices <- for this update.

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

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## **Section 0 - Introduction**

No changes.

## **Section 1 - Communication**

No changes.

## **Section 2 – Team Organization**

No changes.

## **Section 3 - The Arena**

No changes.

## **Section 4 - The Game**

No changes.

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

### **ROBOT**

No changes.

### **KIT**

No changes.

## **Section 6 – Robot Transportation**

No changes.

## **Section 7 – At the Events**

No changes.

## **Section 8 – The Tournament**

No changes.

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## Section 9 – The Awards

No changes.

## Section 10 - Scholarships

No changes.

## FIRST Guidelines, Tips & Good Practices

No changes.

## E-Mail Blasts Sent Since Last Update

2/4/2005

### FedEx Airbills

With just 18 days to robot ship, we know that many of you are thinking about your FedEx shipping airbills. We will start mailing these to teams on February 11th and they will go out FedEx 3-day mail (please refer to section 6.5 of the manual.) Before mailing, however, we are requesting each of you verify your Shipping Contact Information in TIMS at <https://my.usfirst.org/frc/tims/> by **12:00 noon EST Monday, February 7th.**

Please do the following:

- Verify the Shipping Contact is designated correctly (i.e., right person)
- Verify the mailing address and telephone number are accurate. Please note: No P.O. Box addresses - FedEx will not deliver to P.O. boxes. Also, if your Shipping Contact is at a business/school location please make sure the business/school will be open during the week of February 14th for accurate delivery.
- If the airbills are returned to FIRST due to a bad address, your team will be responsible to pay for them to be re-shipped to the correct address.

**\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*** These airbills cannot be replaced if lost. Please make sure the person you have selected as your Shipping Contact is aware that the airbills are coming to him/her. Please also advise they be kept in a secure place until robot ship on February 22nd! Only these pre-printed airbills will be accepted for the complimentary ship - No hand-written airbills will be accepted.

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## Shipping Labels

Please make sure you have the correct Shipping Label for your crate. Per **Section 6.4.2** of the manual you can download the Shipping Label for your event at <http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/2005/rgevents.htm> Click on "Site Info" for the regional event you are attending. You will find this label toward the end of the document.

## Battery Pack

Please make sure your battery is packed according to the specifications given in **Section 6.2** of the manual. There is a "Non-Spillable Battery" slip at the end of each regional's "Site Info" section. Go to <http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/2005/rgevents.htm> and click on "Site Info." Proceed to end of document.

## Shipping Verification

Once your robot has shipped you will need to verify shipment. Please read **Section 6.4.5.1** of the manual carefully for appropriate verification.

*Tip!* Build your robot-shipping crate with weight in mind so you don't incur additional shipping and/or drayage charges.

If you have any questions please contact [frcteams@usfirst.org](mailto:frcteams@usfirst.org).

2/7/2005

**Caution is advised regarding the Fisher-Price motor.** Because of the apparent short supply of Fisher-Price motors (made by Mabuchi), FIRST advises that teams try very hard to protect the Fisher-Price motor from being burned up or fried.

FIRST advises that:

- You consult the torque curve for the motor and do not operate beyond the peak power point
- You not "stall" the motor, which will subject the motor to very high current
- You limit the voltage to the motor (via programming) to 6V
- You use a 20A Snap Action breaker

We do not guarantee that this will protect your motor from damage, but it may help you.

FIRST is working hard on replacement motors. More information to follow soon.

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## Team Yearbook Submissions

The Team Yearbook is your opportunity to share valuable information about your team with FIRST. The data collected helps FIRST track important statistics such as how much it cost your team to participate in the competition, the population of the team (e.g., male/female students, teachers, parents, non-technical professionals) and class breakdown. This information is helpful in FIRST's efforts to procure funding.

Judges also use the Team Yearbook at the Regional and Championship events. They learn important details about your team such as the history, goals, strengths and challenges your team has overcome. Judges take all of this into consideration when they make decisions about team awards. Please note that we may use the robot photos you submit for the Awards Ceremonies.

To enter this data, please go to the Team Information Management System at <http://my.usfirst.org/>. Log in as you did to register your team for events. Once in, go to the "Judges Information" tab and complete all sub tabs and fields. Please note you must do this before **5:00 pm EST, February 23rd**, after which you will not be able to input information or make edits to existing information.

### Customer Service Note:

In the past some teams have waited until the deadline date to start inputting information. Unfortunately, some also experienced last minute problems that could not be resolved by closing time. Since we are against a strict printing deadline, we urge you to start and complete this tab ahead of the deadline date. This way if you have any problems or questions, Team Support will have enough time to help you. With almost 1000 teams, we want to be sure that each of you gets the help you may need. Should you need assistance, please contact us at [frcteams@usfirst.org](mailto:frcteams@usfirst.org).

**\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*** Due to printing constraints there can be No Extensions. The "Judges Information" tab must be completed on-line by **5:00 pm EST, February 23rd** for inclusion in the Team Yearbook.

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Autodesk has asked us to provide you with the following updates regarding the Autodesk Awards Submissions:

## **Paperwork (Visualization Award):**

Please submit the **Entry Form** and the **Archive and Consent Form** as soon as possible. The official deadline is February 14, but please make every effort to submit these forms sooner than February 14. These forms are in your team manual and also on the Autodesk Streamline site. So please, if your team is even just *thinking* about submitting an animation, please prepare the paperwork as soon as possible and get it posted on Streamline.

### Autodesk Streamline:

Here's a reminder on how to access Autodesk Streamline:

<https://projectpoint.buzzsaw.com/client/first>

User Name: (public)

**\*\*Note\*\*** you must put the parentheses around the word public to log in!

Also, don't forget the System Requirements:

Intel Pentium II-based PC with 450MHz or faster processor (266MHz minimum)  
Microsoft Windows 2000 (SP2 or later), Windows XP Professional, or Windows NT 4.0 (SP6 or later)

### **Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.01 or later**

256MB RAM (128MB minimum)

1024x768 display or higher

70MB free disk space

Broadband (DSL, cable modem, or better) Internet connection (56 Kbps minimum)

## **Where to post your entry and forms:**

Please post your entry and forms (both Inventor Award and Visualization Award) under:

- Student Upload Area

There you will find the following self-explanatory folders:

- Deposit Inventor Entries Here
- Deposit Inventor Entry Forms Here
- Deposit Visualization Entries Here

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- Deposit Visualization Entry Forms Here

Rookie (team has not submitted an animation previously)

Non-Rookie (team has submitted an animation previously)

After we receive the entry forms, a file folder will be made for each team that we expect to submit an entry for either of the Autodesk Awards. Please deposit your final entry in the file folder created for your team.

If you have any questions please write to Kelly Stanphill at [Kelly.stanphill@autodesk.com](mailto:Kelly.stanphill@autodesk.com).

### **Question & Answer Items of Note**

There are none.

### **Other Items of Note**

There are none.