

The 2003 FIRST Robotics Competition

February 17, 2003

TEAM UPDATE

# 15

**PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THIS TO OTHER TEAM MEMBERS!**

**SPECIAL NOTICE:**  
**ROBOT SHIP DATE CHANGED TO THURSDAY, 5:00 PM EST.**  
See the announcement in the Administrative section at the end.

**NOTE: Team updates will continue after the Thursday, 2/20, 5:00 PM (your time zone) robot ship date.**

FIRST will provide rules updates and other important information to teams via the FIRST web site at:

<http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/2003/docs.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 2003 FIRST Robotics Competition. FIRST recommends assigning at least one team member the duty of keeping up to date on all team updates. This person or group should be responsible for distributing information contained in team updates to the appropriate team members.

**QUESTIONS?**

**MESSAGE BOARD**

In order to post questions on our message board at:

<http://jive.ilearning.com/index.jsp>

- You **must** reference the particular section of the manual you are questioning or your question will not be answered. This will help us give you the most accurate answer possible.
- Limit each message board submittal to ask only 1 question at a time. This will allow us to categorize your question and will enhance our ability to respond in a timely manner.
- **Please state your inquiry as a question. Some submittals have been lengthy and we have had a great deal of trouble trying to find the question buried within.**
- Do **not** reply to posted messages. FIRST is the only official source for answers. Your replies to posted questions slow down the moderating of this forum. Replies other than from FIRST will be deleted.

**AUTODESK, INC.**

For all inquiries, please e-mail:

[first.entries@autodesk.com](mailto:first.entries@autodesk.com)

**THE GAME**

**PAGE 3 + 4, SECTION 7.1**

**Replace 7.1 with the following:**

- At the start of each match, 29 containers will be stacked in 5 tiers in a line across the top of the platform.
  - The 1<sup>st</sup> (bottom), 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> tiers will have 7 containers;
  - The 4<sup>th</sup> tier will have 5 containers;
  - The 5<sup>th</sup> (top) tier will have 3 containers.

The platform container stacks will be located approximately 3 inches apart and centered across the platform.

- Robots will initially be placed within the starting areas in the alleys at the sides of the platform/ramp structure. Each alliance's robots will start on the far side of the midfield barrier.
- Each alliance will have 2 human players (1 from each team) positioned outside each of the two gates at their end of the playing field. Each human player will have 4 containers stacked near him or her.
- The remaining 2 players and a coach from each team must stand in their driver station on a line that is 3' from the base of the driver station.
- Driver controls must be placed on the diamond plate shelf. See **GM8** for more information on this issue including "wearable" controls.

**PAGE 7, RULE GM8**

This incorporates the information from Team Update #12 regarding wearable controls.

**Replace GM8 with the following:**

During the setup for matches, each team must connect their operator interface to a **specific** driver station within their alliance station as designated by FIRST. The Qualification Match schedule distributed to the teams will indicate either a left or right driver position as viewed from the driver station looking toward the ramp. Teams will be directed during queuing to their designated driver station location.

Team control systems will come in many sizes, shapes, colors, and configurations including "wearable" controls. Wearable controls, whether they are gloves, headgear, a platform hung

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from shoulder straps or whatever, must conform to the following:

- Your OI must be on the diamond plate shelf so that its competition port can be connected with the provided DB15 cable;
- Your wearable controls must be connected to one of the Ports 1 – 4 **AND** this connection must have some sort of quick connect/disconnect (of your choice) in this line;
- Upon expiration of the autonomous period, you may step forward and use your quick connect and begin driving.

### **THE ROBOT**

#### **KEEP YOUR CONTROLS – REVISES FRIDAY’S TEAM UPDATE #14**

FIRST will allow you to keep your all of your operator controls (Operator Interface, OI power supply, joysticks, etc.) and not ship it with your robot on THURSDAY, 2/20/2003. This will allow you to continue to work on your programming and test it with your Edubot.

If you decide not to ship it with your robot, please **remember to bring it to your 1<sup>st</sup> competition.** FIRST does not have replacement controls.

### **KIT OF PARTS**

#### **MISSING OR BROKEN**

For any missing parts or broken parts, please contact us at:

[freparts@usfirst.org](mailto:freparts@usfirst.org)

### **FIELD / CORRECTIONS**

There are none for this update.

### **AUTODESK**

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There are none for this update.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE / MATERIAL HANDLING / SHIPPING**

**THIS WAS SENT AS AN E-MAIL BLAST TO ALL TEAMS ON MONDAY, 2/17/2003 AND IS REPEATED HERE AS A COUTESY TO OUR TEAMS**

Due to the incredible snowstorm that has pounded our central, northeastern and southern states, we are extending the robot ship date to **5:00 pm EST Thursday, February 20th**. Please note this extension is for all teams. In the event you still cannot get your robot shipped by this extended date, you must contact [frcteams@usfirst.org](mailto:frcteams@usfirst.org) or call Team Support at the number below. FIRST will review these cases individually.

We also want to take this opportunity to bring to your attention the other quickly approaching deadline dates, so please read the following carefully.

**REVISED Robot Ship Date - February 20th.** All robots must be shipped by **5:00 pm EST** to the appropriate drayage company. All drayage site information can be found by going to <http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/2003/rgevents.htm> and selecting the "Site Info" link under the appropriate regional. Remember, you will find site and drayage addresses, directions and other critical event information including the designation as to which events will not have a Team Social here as well. We highly recommend you print these pages to put in your manual. *At the end of each section you will find pages that can be printed and used as address labels for your robot crates.*

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\*** You must provide proof of shipping to FIRST! This can be done one of two ways. If you ship via FedEx or UPS you Need to go to the Team Information Management System ([my.usfirst.org](http://my.usfirst.org)) and click on the "**Robot Shipment**" button (available on Thursday.) You will then be able to enter the Tracking Number on your slip. Please note - Do Not mail hard copy to FIRST! Entering your number will be your proof of shipment. FIRST will verify all tracking numbers and shipments via the FedEx and UPS online systems.

If you ship by another carrier, you must mail us confirmation within 24 hours of shipping. Please read the Administrative & Shipping/Handling portion of the manual, Section 13, pages 18-19 for detailed instructions.

### **Team Social Numbers - February 21<sup>st</sup>**

If you are attending a regional that is having a Team Social, please go into the Team Information Management System, Step 2 of 6, and make sure your numbers are accurate.

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### **Team Yearbook Pages - February 21<sup>st</sup>**

Please go to the Team Information Management System and fill these out by 5:00 pm EST on the 21st. Please remember that due to printing constraints there will be No Extensions.

### **Regional Chairman's Awards - February 21<sup>st</sup>**

Please read your manual for details on submission. Go to "Awards", Section 1, pages 3-4

### **Autodesk Visualization Award - February 21s**

Please read your manual for details on submission. Go to "Awards", Section 6, pages 17-24

### **Woodie Flowers Essays - February 28<sup>th</sup>**

Please read your manual for details on submission. Go to "Awards", Section 4, pages 9-10

### **Autodesk Inventor Awards - March 10<sup>th</sup>**

Please read your manual for details on submission. Go to "Awards" Section 5, pages 11-16

### **Midwest Conference Services (MCS) and request for credit card number**

If you have received a request from MCS to provide a credit card number, please note they will only use this number in the event there is an overage (weight) with your robot crate or you have an additional crate to be handled.