

February 5, 2010

TEAM UPDATE #8

GENERAL NOTICES

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A note from National Instruments regarding cRIO-FRC Repair and Replacements:

Teams that need to send their cRIO-FRC back to National Instruments for repair will receive a replacement cRIO-FRC sent overnight, provided it is in NI's system before 4pm Central standard time, otherwise it will be processed the next day.

Please note: Replacements are available at the mercy of other teams. NI has a limited supply of replacement cRIO-FRC units. If teams that receive replacement units do not send their original unit back to NI for repair in a timely matter, the stock may get low and replacement units could be delayed.

Teams purchasing spare or extra cRIO-FRCs (new) will receive their systems in approximately 2 weeks.

Section 0 – Introduction through Section 2 – Team Organization

No changes.

Section 3 – At the Events

Section 3 – At the Events, Rev A, Section 3.3 has been updated to include the edit highlighted below. Teams are prohibited from establishing their own wireless networks for two main reasons:

1. Limiting the wireless traffic in the venue reduces the risk of interference with and crowding of the wireless networks used for the competition field and the practice field.
2. Many venues prohibit wireless access points in addition to their in-house networks, but specifically permit the networks established by *FIRST* for the competition and practice fields. Parity between events would be affected if teams could have wireless networks at some events, but not at others.

3.3 *FIRST* Safety

Participants and team mentors should review the *FIRST* safety policies and the *FIRST* Safety Manual located at www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=470. It provides sound safety practices for your workplace and *FIRST* events. Additional specific site restrictions can be found within the information referenced in Section 3.2. Every team should know, understand, and follow the safety rules:

- Do not run in the venue;
- Always wear ANSI-approved safety glasses anywhere in the pit area, on the playing field, practice fields, walkways, pit stations, and any area posted with signs requiring the use of eye protection;

- Wear closed-toed shoes to protect feet and toes;
- Charge batteries in an open, well-ventilated area. Do not charge near an open flame or near equipment that may produce sparks. Do not use smoking materials in the battery charging area. Charge in an upright position. It is not safe to charge the SLA battery in an inverted position;
- Open flames are NOT allowed in any of the buildings;
- If the event is not a “Bag & Tag” event, only the drayage company may handle loading robots in and out;
- Robots may be operated via wireless control only on the competition fields; and
- Teams are not allowed to set up their own 802.11a/b/g/n (2.4GHz or 5GHz) wireless communication (access points or ad-hoc networks) in the venue. ~~Two-way radios or other form of wireless communications are not allowed (with the exception of the previous bullet).~~

Section 4 – Robot Transportation through Section 8 – The Robot

No changes.

Section 9 – The Tournament

Match results via Twitter:

At the completion of each match, the Field Management System will post the results of each match to Twitter. Information about how to follow the Twitter feed is posted on the FRC game manual website under **Section 9 - The Tournament**.

Section 10 – The Kit of Parts

FisherPrice pinion – tooth count:

It has come to our attention that some of the FisherPrice motors in the 2010 KOP shipped with 15 tooth pinions instead of the 19-tooth pinions that mate with the provided FisherPrice gearbox. If your team received 15-tooth pinions and needs the 19-tooth pinions, please contact *FIRST* to trade motors at frcparts@usfirst.org. We offer our apologies for the inconvenience.