

One-Day Robot Competes at Championships

This is a story about a rookie team from Staten Island arriving at the Championships in Atlanta, GA to an empty pit and a missing robot. Undaunted, they proceeded to build a new robot in around 10 hours in time to compete and place 33rd in their division winning a Judge's Award in the process. This is one of those unbelievable stories that turn out to be very true.

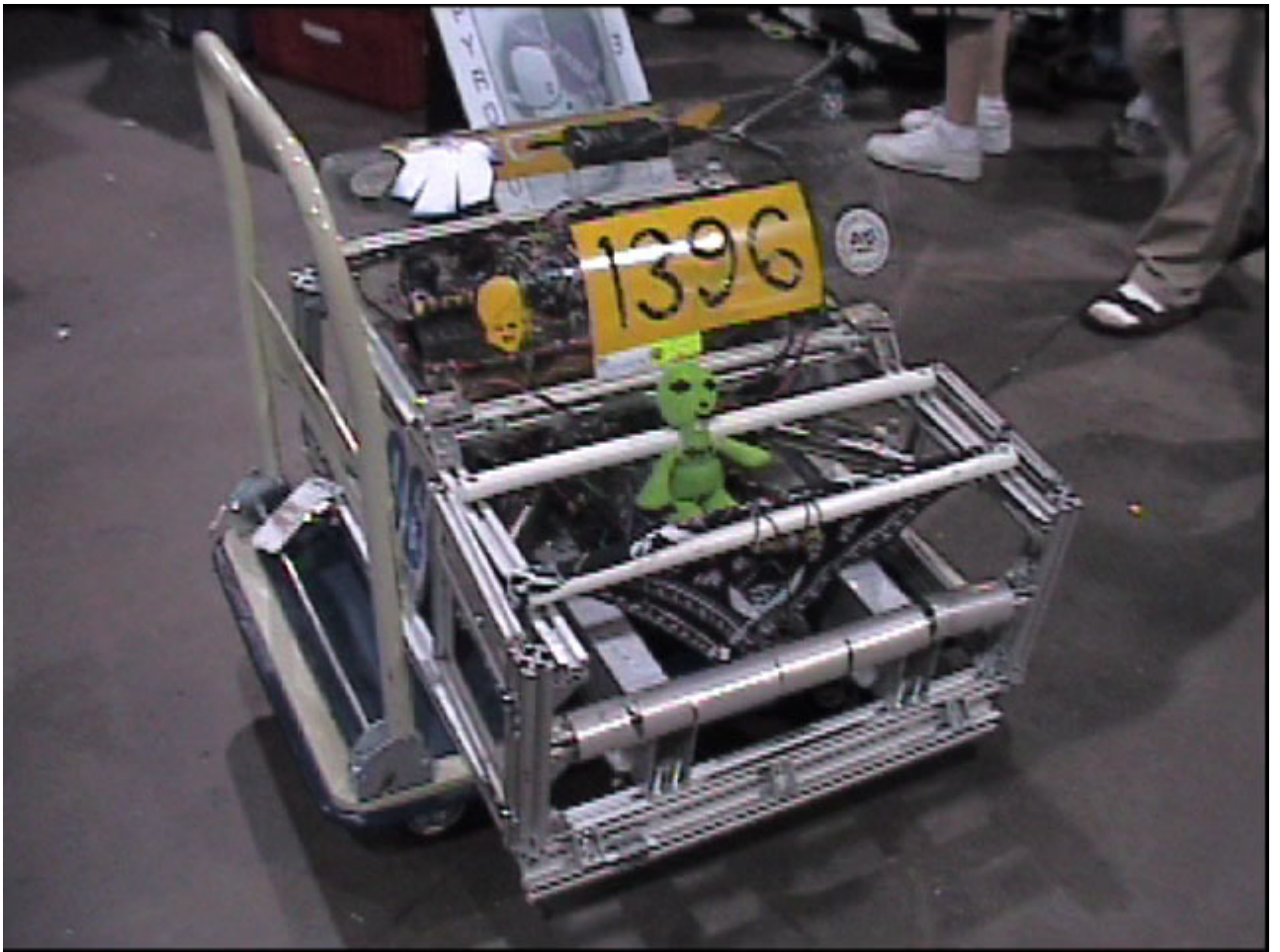
The following is excerpted from a [ChiefDelphi thread](#).

[ChiefDelphi Forums](#) (<http://www.chiefdelphi.com/forums/index.php>)

- [Robot Showcase](#) (<http://www.chiefdelphi.com/forums/forumdisplay.php?f=58>)

- - [pic: 1396 One-Day Robot](#)

(<http://www.chiefdelphi.com/forums/showthread.php?t=27919>)



Here is the 10 hour robot Team 1396 built on Thursday.

Team 1396 arrived on Thursday to an empty pit.
No crate!

They frantically began tracking down where their crate was. It had arrived in Atlanta, but through a paperwork mixup the robot had been re-shipped. The Team finally received a phone call late Thursday night from home telling them their robot had re-appeared on the school loading dock.

In the meantime, without wasting time waiting for the crate to be found the students proceeded to build a second robot. 1396 had brought Bosch intended to be used to rebuilt their arm and parts to rebuild their drivetrain. FIRST Spare Parts dumped victors, spikes, joysticks, compressor, pneumatics, and other parts needed to put a robot together. Surrounding teams came over all day Thursday, Friday, and Saturday contributing parts like the Robot Controller along with their expertise and labor to help 1396 get that robot up and running in time to compete on Friday.

They finished Archimedes in 33 place with a 4-3-0 record and received a Judges Award! Discovery Channel followed them around and did a story on them.

I'm proud of the way FIRST teams got together and helped get this team back on their feet :D, and I feel very privileged to know the members of Team 1396 who didn't allow such a potential tragedy to conquer their spirit or defeat them. They simply rose to the challenge and did what had to be done, and in the process probably had the best time possible at Nationals!

Stephen Kowski

04-19-2004 12:01 PM

wow when it rained it poured for this team....we were right next to them in the pits. They were leaving for a match, took the robot off their table, took no more than two steps away when the entire table crashed to the floor....batteries, chargers, a SOLDERING IRON that was on still....it was pretty bad looking....gj guys you put in a lot of solid work.

Rich Wong

04-19-2004 12:20 PM

1396 (Tottenville HS, SI) is a ROOKIE NYC team.
If it wasn't for all the great FIRST teams helping at the Championship Pit, it would have be a disaster and a horrific experience for these rookies.

From all the other NYC FIRST Teams, a big "THANK YOU" to all the teams who gave their time and parts to help 1396. All of you show exactly what FIRST is all about.

BTW- that's a cool looking robot, especially in 10 hours.

:) :) :)

mtaman02

04-19-2004 11:17 PM

A big thank you is in order as well as a large amount of respect.

I have never seen a robot get built in 10hrs. but I am upset that I was unable to see it all happen.

This was a big comeback for that team.

Some Info about 1396 The PyRobots.

This Team is located in Staten Island NY at Tottenville HS. This HS is widely known for its Sports athletics and is constantly in SI local newspapers. This HS is also one of the better schools on SI. Having a new robotics team that has shown its colors the first year involved with FIRST will only make the HS reputation better and I would like to see this Team back for the 2005 season.

T. 1396 has definitely earned all of their awards this year and Good Luck in the 2005 Season.

A Big Thank you goes to all the teams and the Spare Parts people who have helped to get 1396 on its feet.

Just one question remains?

What happened to this 10hr robot. Does 1396 get to keep it or did they have to return all the parts *ponders*?

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Mark McLeod

04-20-2004 08:47 AM

The crate makes a good story too!

For the crate they made a trip to Home Depot for the parts, but as the primary mentor was just starting to assemble it (alone in the pits during closing ceremonies) a mentor from another team happened by and offered up a spare crate they were just planning to tear apart (the other team had shipped the robot and the tools separately I assume). Team 1396 was packed within a few minutes.

On Saturday they received some of the electronic parts, like the robot controller, express

mailed from their original robot and swapped them out, so they could return the borrowed parts, but still have a functioning robot. They got to keep some of the FIRST spare parts. The robot went home in one piece. The photo at the start of this thread was of the robot as it was before it went into the crate.

The robot has two pneumatic wings that pop out to help herd the balls. During autonomous they would start shoving the mobil goal to block the opponents ball chute. In addition to herding they would also block robots from hanging. It worked better than their original robot simply because of the extra experience they got from building two robots, not that they didn't have other problems. A zip tie got caught in one transmission on Friday and broke part of the plastic housing. It got replaced, thanks again to at least three other teams who had spare parts and labor to contribute.

Greg Needel

04-20-2004 12:10 PM

for anyone who wants to see i found a picture of their original robot



xxmaddjxx

04-20-2004 07:37 PM

As a captain and driver for team 1396 i would like to thank everyone at nats, and everone on CD for their support! We couldnt have done it without you guys. Especially i want to thank teams 1340, 358 (Robotic Eagles), 33 (Killer Bees) and 494 (Goodrich Martians) for their help throught our short but sucessful build season. During these three days i saw what our team and FIRST are really about. I saw what our team was capable of, and am convinced we can do anythign if we try hard enough. I wish that every other team out there, can experiance the spirit of FIRST and gracious professionalis as we did, for it is in times like these that both truly come out. I can withought a doubt say that i am proud of this robot and even in the matches we lost i felt that it performed to its full potential. There is a quote that i had on an english essay a while back (lol) that i think applies to us and our situation, more so the second part of it, but the whole thing holds true.

"Prosperity doth best discover vice, but adversity doth best discover virtue. "
- Sir Francis Bacon

RoboticsFiend

04-20-2004 08:09 PM

I just wanted to add my amazement to the long list of impressed people already here... I met team 1396 at the competition, I went to see their robot after I heard what happened to them and my first thought was "Am I at the right pit?" I could not believe that the robot sitting there was build in just a few hours! After that I started talking to the team members and i must say they are amazing people, who didn't just quit when things went bad. All and all I am just happy to have met such people, and i was on my feet and cheering as loud as i could when they won that Judge's Award because i have never before met a team that deserved it so much... Good work Guys!

~Liz
team 358

Al Skierkiewicz

10-20-2005 08:49 AM

I do not normally revive old threads but since John Boucher pointed to this I had to put in my two cents. Without a doubt this is a defining moment for FIRST. For those of you who were not in the division or Atlanta that year, it is hard to explain. A team came to play but had no robot. Gracious professionalism dictates that if you come to play, I must help you. And they got lot's of help and I am proud to know many of those people personally. For a team to be able to participate is the greatest honor, to deny them that ability was unthinkable. When explaining GP to non Firsters or to newbies, I always use this example. I used this story the other night and the reaction as always is the same...a blank, disbelieving stare. This is proof we can

change the world.