

2005 FIRST Robotics Competition

February 15, 2005	Team Update	11
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→ Special Notices ←

See the Fisher-Price e-mail blast near the end of 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

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	

2005 FIRST Robotics Competition

February 15, 2005	Team Update	11
--------------------------	--------------------	-----------

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

➤ **POSTED: 2005 Robot Inspection Checklist**

Go to: <http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/2005/frcdocs.htm#Section5>

KIT

No changes.

Section 6 – Robot Transportation

No changes.

Section 7 – At the Events

No changes.

Section 8 – The Tournament

No changes.

2005 FIRST Robotics Competition

February 15, 2005	Team Update	11
-------------------	-------------	----

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

2/12/2005

FIRST has discovered, with our teams' assistance, problems associated with the 2005 Fisher-Price motor and gearbox. FIRST apologizes for what has occurred this year.

BACKGROUND

Historically, Teams received 2 Fisher-Price gearboxes with an attached 12V motor. The motors have been consistently 12V models with a pinion gear that meshes with a plastic gear inside the Fisher-Price gearbox. The pinion gear and, subsequently, the gearbox have sometimes been different from year to year, but the motor was always a 12V motor. **For example, the 2004 motor / gearbox was a 12V motor with a 19-tooth pinion gear.**

THIS YEAR... 2005

Fisher-Price, a very large supporter of and donor to FIRST, inadvertently **shipped a 6V motor, which had a 13-tooth pinion, and the associated gearbox for this motor.** We all assumed that this was a 12V motor and, only after teams responded with questions about the motor's performance, were we able to investigate the problem and determine the cause of failures. Driving a 6V-motor with 12 volts is not recommended. Please be aware that stalling the motor will damage it and may also damage the transmission because of the high torque it is delivering to the transmission's gears.

WHAT ARE YOUR OPTIONS?

NOW

1. If you are using this year's motor and it still works, be careful! Protect it from damage. This can be done by avoiding stalling the motor, using 20 Amp circuit breakers, and/or limiting the effective motor voltage to 6 Volts (by restricting the PWM values sent to the speed controller).

2005 FIRST Robotics Competition

February 15, 2005	Team Update	11
-------------------	-------------	----

2. If you have “fried” this year’s motor and would like a replacement, send it to FIRST, c/o FRC Parts. We will send you a replacement 6V motor.
3. If you have last year’s motor and gearbox, you may use it.
4. You can check Chief Delphi’s swap area to potentially acquire one of last year’s motors. Go to:

www.chiefdelphi.com/forums/parts.php?

5. To quickly purchase a motor, you can check availability with a Fisher-Price service center near you. To locate a service center online, use this link and type in your zip code:

http://www.service.mattel.com/us/powerwheels_info.asp

To locate service centers by phone, call Fisher-Price at 800-348-0751, press 1 for English, and then press 3, which will provide a menu of service center location choices.

For the 2004 motor and transmission, ask for:

19 tooth Jeep Gearbox

For just the 2004 motor, ask for:

Part # 009689003 (this motor will only mount to the 2004 gearbox).

AT THE EVENTS

Various options outlined below will be available on an EXCHANGE basis. Because quantities are limited, teams are encouraged to take all precautions so as not to “fry” motors, i.e., we will not repeatedly replace the same motor.

1. FIRST will have the 2005 motor/gearbox (6V and 13-tooth pinion) available on an EXCHANGE BASIS, i.e., you may get a replacement by turning in the motor/gearbox. from this year’s kit.
2. We will have the 2004 motor/gearbox (12V and 19-tooth pinion) available on an EXCHANGE BASIS, i.e., you may get a replacement by turning in the motor/gearbox. From this year’s kit. The motor you are turning in can be “fried” OR in perfect working order.
3. We will have 12V motors (that are very close to the 2004 motor power but are not an exact match) with a 13-tooth pinion available on an EXCHANGE BASIS, i.e., you may get a replacement by turning in the 2005-6V motor. The motor you are turning in can be “fried” OR in perfect working order. This replacement motor will only fit the 2005 gearbox.

2005 FIRST Robotics Competition

February 15, 2005	Team Update	11
--------------------------	--------------------	-----------

FIRST and Fisher-Price are doing everything we can to rectify the situation at hand with these motors. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation with this issue. FIRST is very thankful to have suppliers such as Fisher-Price who are committed to FIRST's mission and make these resources available for all teams.

Question & Answer Items of Note

There are none.

Other Items of Note

➤ **NEW SITE INFORMATION for: Several locations**

St. Louis Regional – Lunch pre-ordering opportunity

- There is updated information regarding a lunch pre-ordering opportunity.

Detroit Regional – New directions

- There are new directions to this event.

Pacific Northwest - Lunch pre-ordering opportunity

- There is updated information regarding a lunch pre-ordering opportunity.

Waterloo Regional - Lunch pre-ordering menu change

- There is updated information regarding the menu for lunch pre-ordering.

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.