February 27, 2006

TEAM UPDATE #13

GENERAL NOTICES

Technical Notice from Innovation First

Issue:
Data can be corrupted when using interrupts with the 18F8722 micro-processor chip. Please refer to the Microchip PIC18F8722 errata sheet at: http://ww1.microchip.com/downloads/en/DeviceDoc/80221b.pdf for more information regarding this anomaly.

Fix:
Recompile your code using these libraries at: http://www.ifirobotics.com/docs/revised-frc-libraries_2-24-06.zip , instructions included. The library link is also available on our home web page at http://www.ifirobotics.com/ .

A special thanks to Team 386 for their help with this issue.

Documents and Updates

No changes.

Question & Answer System

No changes.

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)

No changes.

Section 6 – Robot Transportation

No changes.

Section 7 – At the Events

No changes

Section 8 – The Tournament

No changes.

Section 9 – The Awards

No changes.

Section 10 – Get Published

No changes.

2006 *FIRST* Guidelines, Tips & Good Practices

No changes

E-Mail Blasts Sent Since Last Update

February 24, 2006

The 2006 *FIRST* Safety Awareness and Recognition Program

We are pleased to present you with the 2006 *FIRST* Safety Awareness and Recognition Program. Safety is a solid investment in human capital and brings tangible rewards to those who practice safe work habits. Instilling a culture of safety is a value that needs to be embraced in every aspect of the *FIRST* community as we pursue the mission and vision of *FIRST.* We encourage the whole *FIRST* community to adopt safety as a core value and to establish the right framework for safety leadership in all aspects of our endeavors.

FIRST is looking to recognize those teams at FRC events who get it about safety throughout their program and who are truly committed to further developing a culture of safety. We are looking for teams that take a lead in developing programs and policies that have a positive and lasting impact on each team member and mentor, their communities, and their work places. Teams need to recognize that safety can deliver a significant return on investment in both the short and long term.

Please read the 2006 *FIRST* Robotics Competition Team Safety Manual for additional details at http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/2006/2006teamsafetymanual.pdf

We have provided a description of the awards to be given at each event along with information on the Team Safety Captain meeting below.

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STAR OF THE DAY

Purpose of the Award: This recognition identifies individuals that have gone above and beyond in making a noteworthy contribution to promoting a culture of safety.

How it works:
Each Star of the Day will be chosen at the discretion of the Safety Advisor(s);
There will be a small token of appreciation presented to each Star of the Day selected on Friday and Saturday;
The names of each Star of the Day selected shall be posted in a high visibility area for the duration of the competition, usually in the vicinity of the Pit Admin desk.

UL INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AWARD

Purpose of the Award: This team-based award is intended to encourage and recognize safety excellence. Safe work habits, such as looking out for the safety of yourselves and others, are invaluable life skills. Not only will they help ensure a safe competition, but they will also benefit participants, both on and off-the-job, for the rest of their lives.

UL Industrial Safety Award Statement: This award recognizes the team that progresses beyond safety fundamentals by using innovative ways to eliminate or protect against hazards. The winning team consistently demonstrates excellence in safety performance, which shines in the heat of competition.

How it works:
Safety Advisors will circulate through the competition site, especially the pits, visiting each teams area at least twice a day;
Teams will be able to earn "safety credits" (see Safety Credits Award below for a description of the credits) when the Safety Advisors observe safe behaviors;
The Safety Advisors will be available to coach team members and mentors on safety issues or questions during the competition;
The Safety Advisors will watch all teams and select the one that best meets the criteria for the UL Award

SAFETY CREDITS AWARD

Purpose of the Award - Provide recognition for those teams who maintained safe environments throughout the competition and were rewarded with safety credits

How it works:
At registration, each team will be given 10 "safety credits" (plastic red tokens) in their registration packet. In the spirit of Gracious Professionalism, 5 of the 10 credits should be used by the team to reward other teams for good safety performance;
Teams will turn in all safety credits to the Pit Administration Area by **12:00 noon** on **Saturday** for a final count;
The three (3) teams with the most credits will receive an award.

SAFETY FOCUS AREA FOR ALL AWARDS

The Safety Advisors will focus on the combination of individual and team safety behaviors and safe physical conditions along with their safety outreach to other teams. This will include:

- Safe behaviors work practices, use of tools
- PPE - wearing required personal protective equipment (e.g. Safety glasses, closed toe footwear, gloves)

- Safe Physical Conditions workspace in pit area, condition of hand tools and power tools, power cords, safe handling of batteries and charging equipment

Special attention and recognition will be focused on:

- Maintaining safe work practices when under time constraints (pressure)
- Wearing safety glasses in the pit stations and on the playing fields at all times
- Control of the robot at all times
- Safe use of hand and power tools
- No prohibited tools in the pits
- Assisting other teams with safety issues, as needed
- Control of the pit area regarding authorized access and visitor safety
- Condition of the pit work surface, i.e. tripping hazards

All teams are expected to understand and follow *FIRST* competition rules.

Safety Captain Meeting

There will be a safety meeting for all Team Safety Captains at **10:00 am** on **Thursday**. Please review the information in your team packet for information on where this meeting will be held. Additional information about the Team Safety Captain can be found in the Competition Manual in Section 7.3.3.

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February 24, 2006

The third annual *FIRST* Robotics Conference

The third annual *FIRST* Robotics Conference will take place **April 27-29, 2006** at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta in conjunction with the *FIRST* Championship.

We're gearing up for a great conference that will provide current and prospective FRC, FVC, and FLL teams, coaches, students, and mentors with the technical and non-technical information and advice they need to be the best they can be.

For FRC teams, there's a wealth of terrific information to be learned from past award winners. For FLL, we have teamed up with the Tufts Center for Engineering Educational Outreach (the creators of ROBOLOAB) to offer some excellent sessions that will help you with the transition to the new LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT. For FVC teams, intelitek, WPI, and others have scheduled some excellent sessions.

Please note that conference passes may be shared among your team members. If you register for 5 passes, any 5 members of your team may attend sessions at any given time, but they will need the printed pass for admission. Printed passes will be available at the conference when upon arrival at the Georgia World Congress Center.

Register yourself or a team of five (5) for one day or for all three.

One pass Five passes

Thursday	$20	$75
Friday	$20	$75
Saturday	FREE with Thursday and/or Friday registration	
Thurs-Sat	$35	$140

Registration closes Monday, April 24 or when slots fill, whichever comes first.

To register and to see the full conference schedule, visit http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/2006/cmp_conference.htm Questions? Email firstplace@usfirst.org .

Question & Answer Items of Note

No changes