



## Muncie/Delaware FIRST Robotics

Team #1720 – The PhyXTGears  
[www.muncierobotics.org](http://www.muncierobotics.org)



Team 1720 & Frodo, the robot that picks up rings, March 2007

Dear Potential Sponsor:

Please welcome The PhyXTGears Team #1720 in as a special interest club. We are gearing up to compete in the US FIRST robotics competition for 2008. The goal of our team is to provide students a unique, hands-on experience working on a real engineering project. We hope to better ourselves in the work field of tomorrow and eventually offer our talents to grow and prosper in Delaware County with our local businesses that support our team.

The [FIRST \(For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology\) Robotics Competition](#) is a national engineering contest that immerses high school students in the exciting world of engineering. Teaming up with engineers from businesses and universities, students get a hands-on, inside look at the engineering profession. In six intense weeks, students and engineers work together to brainstorm, design, construct, and test their "champion robot". The teams then compete in a spirited, no-holds-barred tournament complete with referees, cheerleaders, and time clocks.

The partnerships developed between schools, businesses, and universities provide an exchange of resources and talent, highlighting mutual needs, building cooperation, and exposing students to new career choices. The result is a fun, exciting and stimulating environment in which all participants discover the important connection between classroom lessons and real world applications.

Each year, the competition is different, so returning teams always have a new challenge to look forward to. However, the details are kept secret until the unveiling at the Kick-Off workshop. This provides a high level of excitement as everyone sees the new challenge for the first time and ideas immediately begin forming in people's minds.

The competition that we are involved in has been in existence for over 14 years. There are typically 32 regional competitions and one national competition, held at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta. Our team plans to compete in the Boilermaker regional at Purdue University in March 2008. We would also like to attend the National Competition in April in Atlanta. We have already begun planning this season and will start training this November with general hands-on training in motors, pneumatics, programmable controllers, other important engineering skills and equipment.

Our main reason for contacting you is that we are looking for local sponsors to provide donations to our team. Currently we have 17 students signed up for the team and 5 adults (engineers, professionals, and parents). Our goal is to have 25 students this year to experience this once in a lifetime high school opportunity. We are currently looking for sponsors who can help with expenses in the area of team jerseys, robot materials and supplies, other travel costs, etc. We would



## Muncie/Delaware FIRST Robotics

Team #1720 – The PhyXTGears  
[www.muncierobotics.org](http://www.muncierobotics.org)



appreciate any donation you or your corporate office could supply food for our team meetings. Donations can be made out to **Muncie/Delaware FIRST Robotics**. Our local robotics program is non-profit 501c3 status.

What you would get in return is a visible commitment to local youth, and the opportunity to come and see what we are doing firsthand. Sponsors will have exposure to some of the top engineers and engineering firms in the country. Media coverage in the past included several newspaper articles, local television highlights, web-casts, and event national satellite television highlights. We will apply your company logo on our robot, banners, and/or shirts, depending on donation level.

We are under a strict deadline with the FIRST organization. Here are some important dates:

### **December 7, 2007**

We are required to submit our \$6,000 event payment for the Boilermaker regional which includes a kit of basic parts. We will need an additional \$9,000 for materials, other parts, tools and equipping our practice playing field. If you can help us this year in funding our registration fee and be our partner by donation, we would need to have funding in place before this deadline.

### **December 15, 2007**

This year we need 3 additional computers, configured to allow us to run the resource intensive animation software that FIRST provides for us, to develop an entry into the FIRST Animation Competition and to design and create parts with the FIRST provided Parametric CAD program. We have students interested in doing this, but don't have the computers that can handle it. Estimated need: \$1,500.

Additionally, since moving in to a different facility, access to the machinery necessary to produce a competitive robot is no longer available. We are in need of 3 large machines; a lathe, bench mill and metal forming machine. Estimated need: \$3,500

### **February 1, 2008**

We like to order team T-Shirts to wear to competitions, demonstrations, recruiting events, sponsor visits, etc. We are budgeting \$600 for team T-shirts this year.

### **March 12-14, 2008**

Join us at Purdue's Armory packed with 3,000 cheering fans and at least 36 teams. Bring the family on Friday night or Saturday to see us compete; admission is free. All of our travel and lodging fundraising should be complete. We are budgeting \$2,000 for travel and lodging.

### **April 2008**

This year our team qualifies for the national event in Atlanta, Georgia. We would need to have our additional 8,000 raised for registration, transportation and lodging planned for 25 people.

If you would like more information about the competition, the US FIRST robotics group has a website that you can access at [www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org). Our team, "The PhyXTGears", also has a website at [www.muncierobotics.org](http://www.muncierobotics.org). Please feel free to contact team coordinator Cheryl LeBlanc, [cleblanc@bsu.edu](mailto:cleblanc@bsu.edu), 765-730-3052 or lead mentor/engineer Mike Koch, [mike.koch@ontariosystems.com](mailto:mike.koch@ontariosystems.com), 765-661-5562 with any comments or questions!

Thanks for your consideration!  
The PhyXTGears, Team #1720