

Neutrino

FIRST Robotics Team #3928

Chairmen's Executive Summary

2014

1. *Briefly describe the impact of the FIRST program on team participants with special emphasis on the 2013/2014 year and the preceding two to five years.*

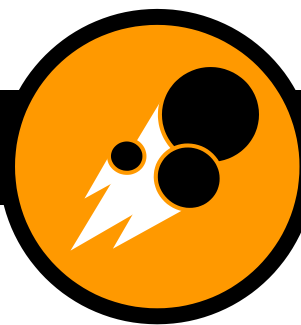
Participating in the FIRST program has proved to have a positive impact on the students of Team Neutrino. The team allows students to gain real world experiences in leadership, technical, business, communication, time management, teamwork, writing, and many other skills which they can apply to their life well after leaving the team. It also helps students to realize their strengths and interests which act as a guide for choosing a career later in life.

2. *Describe the impact of the FIRST program on your community with special emphasis on the 2013/2014 year and the preceding two to five years.*

Since our rookie year as an 11 member team, Team Neutrino expanded to 19 members with a growing impact on our community. We have helped the youth of our community by having a booth at Elementary School events and holding Summer Classes at the Middle School. We participate in many events held at ISU such as the Iowa State FLL competition. Expanding the boundaries of our influence, we have participated in state-wide events including the Iowa state fair, Science Center's FIRST day and STEM Day.

3. *Describe the team's innovative or creative method to spread the FIRST message.*

Being one of the few FRC teams in Iowa, Team Neutrino has our work cut out for us to spread the FIRST message. We take every opportunity to present and demonstrate the robot. If there isn't an opportunity, we make



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one. Opportunities include: Iowa FLL State Championship, Volunteering at FLL Regionals, STEM Day at the Capitol, and the Iowa State Fair. Team Neutrino also planned and implemented a two week summer class geared towards elementary and middle school students.

4. Describe examples of how your team members act as role models and inspire other FIRST team members to emulate.

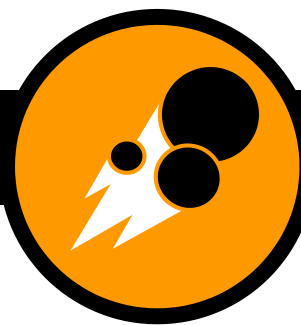
Team Neutrino members strive to create a sustainable team. Skills learned are passed down to the younger members of the team which ensures that even the freshmen are capable in all areas of the team. Team Neutrino has worked hard to create an impressive history, a positive impact in the community, and a recognizable team brand; all of which help to build and maintain a quality team that will last long after we're gone.

5. Describe the team's initiatives to help start or form other FRC teams.

Team Neutrino, a 3rd year FRC team, is not yet strangers to being rookies. The team was started by college mentors from other FRC teams who wanted to continue their passion. Though helping to start a new FRC team is definitely in our future plans, our focus is on becoming firmly rooted and acquired to FRC before starting other teams. In Iowa, there aren't yet many FRC teams, but there is definitely a growing interest. Starting a new team will definitely be a priority within the next few years.

6. Describe the team's initiatives to help start or form other FIRST teams including Jr.FLL, FLL, & FTC.

The team's influence is centralized in our community. Initially, Ames Middle School's FLL program consisted of 4 teams; after Team Neutrino was set up, the program grew to 6 teams. This is largely due to the many outreach and



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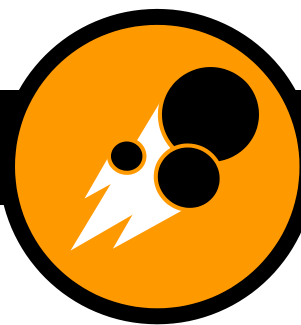
volunteer programs we have held with the AMS FLL. These programs have sparked excitement in FIRST among the community, especially through inspiring more youth to join. The initiatives we have taken have helped the FIRST family in our community to grow extensively.

7. Describe the team's initiatives on assisting other FIRST teams (including Jr.FLL, FLL, FTC, & FRC) with progressing through the FIRST program.

As an FRC team, we try to inspire other FIRST teams, especially those in our community. In fact, several of our mentors assisted nearby FTC teams. We are primarily focused on assisting FLL teams through providing resources and doing multiple demos of our robot, which keeps them excited about being in FIRST. From these events, students in FLL can have the confidence in knowing that their FIRST journey can continue after FLL and into FRC.

8. Describe how your team works with other FIRST teams to serve as mentors to younger or less experienced FIRST teams including Jr.FLL, FLL, FTC, & FRC teams.

We work closely with the FLL teams in Ames Middle School. The Ames Middle School FLL scrimmage is a key event where we provide our advice and experience to the younger students in FLL. At the event, we act as referees presiding over the robot rounds. We also judge their projects and give them advice based on our experiences, since most members are FLL alumni. We also let the FLL members know that we are always available and ready to extend a helping hand.



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9. Describe your Corporate/University Sponsors.

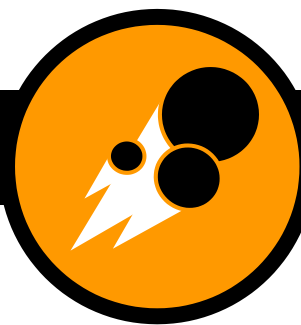
Team Neutrino is affiliated with Iowa State University (ISU). ISU gives us space to build our robot, as well as access to their shop. Some of our mentors are ISU students in the STEM fields. John Deere is also a huge sponsor of our team by donating the monetary amount needed to register for the Championship competition if we go, in addition to a professional mentor. Danfoss pays for a regional and our off season events. Quality Manufacturing works with us to machine parts for the robot.

10. Describe the strength of your partnership with your sponsors with special emphasis on the 2013/2014 year and the preceding two to five years.

In addition to assisting us monetarily, sponsors act as a living example for careers in the STEM fields. Many of our mentors are also employees at these companies. To strengthen the relationship we have with our sponsors, we keep contact with them during the build season with newsletters, and thank them by displaying their logos. In the offseason, we present our robot to their business to show them what they have helped us to achieve. We are excited to continue our partnerships.

11. Describe how your team would explain what FIRST is to someone who has never heard of it.

FIRST is an acronym: For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology. However, to a member in the FIRST program, it stands for much more than that. FIRST teaches you about STEM through the exciting challenge of building a robot. We also develop our innovation and push the limits of our imagination. Working as a team teaches us to be patient and the advantages of collaboration. At competition all teams display gracious professionalism, further sharing the message of FIRST.



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12. Briefly describe other matters of interest to the FIRST judges, if any.

We are still a relatively young team; however, the realm of our influence is fairly large. Being a multi-community program spreading throughout Story County, we are a fairly diverse team, where students from different schools can work together. Adding to the already very diverse team, most of our mentors are Iowa State University Students, some of which are past members of FRC. Their skills and knowledge of FRC have been extremely helpful and essential to this team.