

JOIN OUR TEAM



THUNDER DOWN
UNDER

BECOME A SPONSOR

Who's *FIRST*®

The Origins

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is the world's leading educational program in the field of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and it prepares young people for the future through a global robotics community and competition.

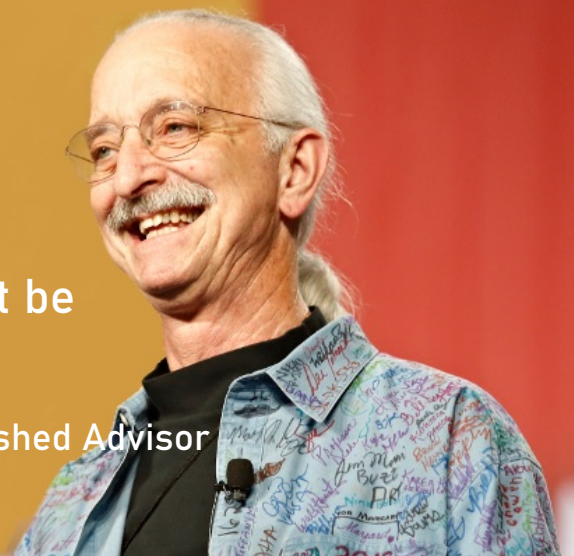
Its mission is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders and innovators, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering, and technology skills.

The *FIRST* programs are boosted by a **global support system of volunteers, educators, and sponsors that include over 200 of the Fortune 500 companies.** Teams are expected to conduct research, raise funds, design, build, and showcase their achievements during annual challenges.



***FIRST*® is really, really hard...
It's supposed to be hard.
If this were easy, then doing it wouldn't be
nearly so cool!**

~ Dr. Woodie Flowers (1943-2019), *FIRST* Distinguished Advisor



FIRST Core Values

The **FIRST** Community expresses the **FIRST** philosophies of **Gracious Professionalism®** and **Coopertition®** through our **Core Values**:



- 1 DISCOVERY** : We explore skills and ideas.
- 2 INNOVATION** : We use creativity and persistence to solve problems.
- 3 IMPACT** : We apply what we learn to improve our world.
- 4 TEAMWORK** : We are stronger when we work together.
- 5 INCLUSION** : We respect each other and embrace our differences.
- 6 FUN** : We enjoy and celebrate what we do!

The **FIRST Core Values**, created by **Dean Kamen**, emphasise friendly sportsmanship, respect for the contributions of others, teamwork, learning, and community involvement and are part of our commitment to **fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of equity, diversity, and inclusion.**

Gracious Professionalism and **Coopertition** are central themes to the **FIRST** experience. But these ideas expand far beyond robotics, and can be used in every aspect of life.

~ www.chs-robotics.org

Our TEAMS

Team 3132 - Thunder Down Under

Our Senior Team

Team 3132 was formed after **Professor Mike Heimlich** moved from the USA to accept a job at Macquarie University and he realised that there were **no FIRST Robotics Competition Teams in Australia or any STEM programs of its kind**. Since he promised his daughters that they could join one of the **Australian FRC Teams**, he saw no other option than to set one up. *Hence, Team 3132 became a reality in 2009.*

Our students come from across Greater Sydney and **meet weekly at the Macquarie University HQ** to learn about **mechanical and electrical engineering, robot design and programming**, as well as social media management and fundraising, in anticipation of the **competition kick-off in January**.

Each week a group of mentors, **many former FIRST students themselves**, guide the students towards achieving our team's goals **to have fun and 'Innovate. Improve. Inspire the World.'**

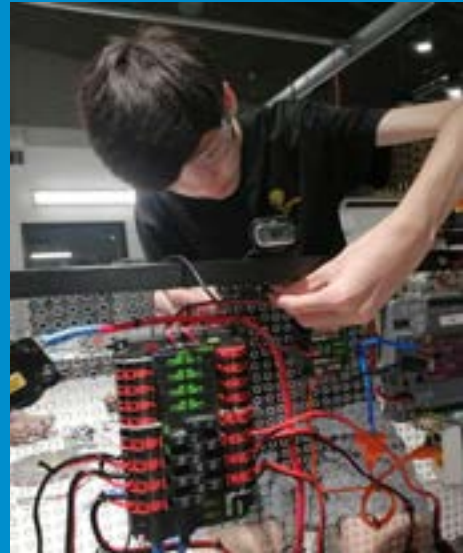
Team 5331 - Lightning Bots

Our Junior Team

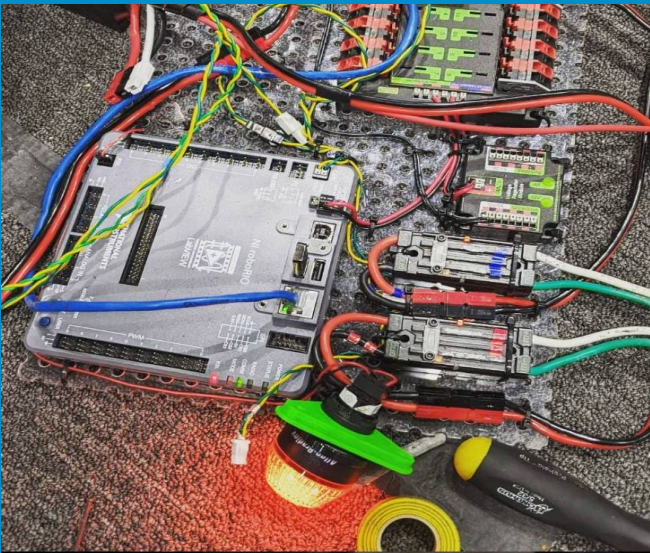
Team 5331 consists mainly of students that are **new to FIRST Robotics**.

Being part of this team allows them to be **exposed to new tools and techniques** and prepares them for the full competition experience without being dominated by the more senior students.

Students embark on **a huge learning curve with the introduction of robotics**, working in a team environment, handling machinery and tools, all **under the guidance of the more experienced students and mentor professionals**.



Weekly Robotics



Our OUTREACH

Our outreach activities are focused on building a sustainable local community but also on supporting teams across the world. Our team is all about diversity, inclusion, inspiration, impact and innovation. Through our outreach activities we strive to help our communities and accomplish our mission of 'STEM for Everyone, Everywhere'.

Our Endeavours



THE COMPASS ALLIANCE was founded in 2017 by FRC 3132 in partnership with **9 teams from around the world**. We provide assistance on running, enhancing and sustaining an FRC team.



ROBOCAMPS are an innovative way to **engage children in STEM and robotics** through introducing them to LEGO Spike Prime robotics and basic coding principles.



DUEL DOWN UNDER (DDU) is an unofficial off-season event that **gives teams a chance to improve their robot after the official season**, and provides an excellent opportunity for rookie teams to get more competition experience.



MACQUARIE PARK FLL REGIONAL is an official *FIRST* Lego League Challenge regional event that is planned and organised by us. **Our mentors are filling key roles and students are volunteering.**



HEAR FOR YOU was created to make *FIRST* **accessible for those with mental health issues and other conditions**. Each event has a quiet room set up to **provide a safe space** where students can decompress, and get away from the acoustic and visual excitement of an event. The concept of **Quiet Rooms was introduced at the World Championship in 2019.**



LIGHTNING SERVICE is an initiative aimed at helping junior teams with technical issues in the pits and getting their robots on the field during the competition.

Our MISSION

Past & Present



ROBOTS AROUND THE WORLD

Involves initiatives such as **The Fisherman's Institute**, **The Microbank** and **Robots in the Outback** which included providing no-interest loans and mentoring to jump-start *FIRST* Robotics in small towns across Australia and other regions without any **FRC Teams** to help them become self-sustaining.



CALIFORNIA AUSTRALIAN ROBOTICS EQUIPMENT SERVICE

We **partnered with teams in California** to ship their pre-loved commercially off the shelf components to Australia and **offer them free of charge to teams who would be otherwise unable to afford it.**



MENTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

An annual conference bringing experienced mentors from world-class teams to Australia, aimed at **sharing knowledge and up-skilling mentors and students.**



24 HOURS OF STEM

International **COVID-19 pandemic initiative** to engage those with a keen interest in STEM related topics while being in lock-down.



THE KOALA FOUNDATION

Following the devastating **Australian bushfires** in 2019, Californian *FIRST* Robotics Competition team asked how they could help. We worked with 21 teams internationally to create designs dedicated to Australia and to sell those as merchandise on Etsy. **We raised over \$2.5K for the Australian Red Cross.**

Our Awards

Listed below are some of our most memorable awards


- 2023 Team Sustainability Award (Southern Cross Regional) Judge's Award (World Championship)
- 2022 Excellence in Engineering Award Woodie Flowers Finalist Award (Southern Cross Regional)
- 2021 Winner (South Pacific Regional)
- 2020 No events held (COVID-19)
- 2019 Engineering Inspiration Award (South Pacific Regional) Subdivision Winner (World Championship)
- 2018 Engineering Inspiration Award (Silicon Valley Regional)
- 2017 Winner (South Pacific Regional) Winner (Hawaii Regional) Chairman's Award (World Championship)
- 2016 Industrial Safety Award sponsored by Underwriters Laboratories (Northern Lights Regional)
- 2015 Industrial Safety Award sponsored by Underwriters Laboratories
- 2014 Finalist (Australia Regional) *FIRST* Dean's List Finalist (Hawaii Regional)
- 2013 Chairman's Award (Hawaii Regional)
- 2012 Entrepreneurship Award sponsored by Kleiner Perkins Caufield and Byers (World Championship)
- 2011 Chairman's Award (Hawaii Regional)
- 2010 Rookie All-Star Award (Granite State Regional)



Why we NEED YOUR HELP



FIRST is more than robots. The robots are a vehicle for students to learn important life skills. Kids often come in not knowing what to expect - not of the program nor of themselves.

They leave, even after the first season, with a vision, with confidence, and with a sense that they can create their own future. 

- Dean Kamen, *FIRST* Founder, Engineer, Inventor, Businessman

Our EXPENSES

Participating in the *FIRST* Robotics community, where a new generation of skilled professionals is created, has its challenges. As an international team, one of our biggest challenges is funding.

 **Our annual costs are approximately \$48,500 per year.**

This largest component of these expenses is associated with the **registration fees for our two teams: US\$6,000 per team** per regional event, and **US\$5,750 for one team to attend the World Championship in the USA** . These fees do not include the **travel cost for the robot (approx AU\$5,000)**, nor for the students. At present, students are required to fund their attendance at Regional or the World Championship themselves.

Other costs are robot related and expenses made during the year to teach students the necessary skills required for the competition season and for their future careers. These expenses range from **Robot Components (approx AU\$10,000)**, **IT Hardware and Software Licences (\$AU4,000)**, **Apparel, Marketing Material, Community Outreach, Banking Fees, etc. (\$AU2,500)**.

 **We therefore appeal to you to become an important part of our team and become one of our valued supporters.**

We rely heavily on donors and sponsors, all the way from local small businesses, schools and universities to large corporations.

Any support you can provide is greatly appreciated.






How you can PARTNER WITH US



We are open to receiving all kinds of support, including direct funding, or in-kind donations.



Please find overleaf our Sponsorship Tiers to assist you.



Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions. Our contact details are listed at the end of this document.

Sponsorship TIERS

Supporter Recognition

\$100 - \$500

A Thank You certificate for your support and a team Trading T-shirt*
Honourable mention on our website and social media pages

Gold

\$501 - \$1000

Supporter benefits
Recognition of your sponsorship on our social media
Our quarterly newsletter to keep you up-to-date with the team activities and achievements

Diamond

\$1001 - \$5000

Gold benefits
Company name/logo on lower half of competition pull-up banner
Company logo on our competition robot
Personalised plaque designed by our students

Platinum

\$5000+

Diamond benefits
Tour of our team workshop
Company name/logo on top half of competition pull-up banner
Name/logo and description of company displayed in competition pits, visible to all regional, national and international teams
Logo on Trading T-shirt*

*Trading T-shirts are exchanged between members of different FRC teams, both at national and international level. It is a very popular activity and many FRC team members wear trading T-shirts as part of their general wardrobe. Team 3132 Trading T-shirts are in high demand and your brand will therefore be on display in a variety of countries worldwide.



Why

partnering
with us is

INVESTING

IN THE

FUTURE



YOUR Contributions

The Benefits of Sponsorship

1 Investing in the Future of Engineering

FIRST programs are aimed at **building the technical workforce of the future**. Through mentoring by professionals, students gain technical aptitude and **develop skills, such as collaboration, public speaking, teamwork and passion**.

Students who have gone through the *FIRST* programs are **often recruited for internships and full-time positions** by the supporters of *FIRST* because these companies know that *FIRST* Alumni are often beyond their peers.

2 Brand Exposure

This is an amazing opportunity to get your **brand in front of potential customers and future potential employees**.

Your company will be promoted alongside some large companies and organisations, like **Macquarie University, Google, and The Institution of Engineering & Technology (IET)**.

3 Our Promise

We are a family. We will regularly communicate with you and your employees and give you updates on our teams' activities and plans. We can display our robots at your company events and give you the opportunity to show how your company is involved in the **education of the future generation of engineers**.



4 Cost-Efficient

We will use your money wisely. For a relatively minor financial outlay, the right event partnerships have **great potential for customer reach, influence, and engagement.**

5 Social Media Opportunities

We offer high-impact visual installations through banners and logos **display on our robots, website, and social media platforms**, thereby delivering a full suite of branded digital experiences.

6 Community Spirit & Mentorship

Your employees can get involved by **volunteering at one of our many *FIRST* events, or even by becoming an advisor** to our teams, thereby expanding your involvement in your local community.

In short:

- **You will be making a genuine impact on the lives of our future leaders, founders and innovators.**
- **Your partnership with us will strengthen your business image.**
- **Customers love brands that care about spreading positive messages and helping the community, which will set you apart.**
- **Our international reach will expose your brand to an potential international customer base.**



It is not what you do - it is what you are becoming.



~ Dean Kamen, *FIRST* Founder, Engineer, Inventor, Businessman.

Contacts

How to Start the Process

Contact our Sponsorship Team

Sponsorship Team:

Email: firstroboticsteam3132@gmail.com

Rex di Bona (Mentor)

Email: rex.dibona@mq.edu.au

Website & Social Media

Website: www.team3132.com

Youtube: www.youtube.com/@roborooos/

Instagram: www.instagram.com/team3132/

Further Reading

Further Reading on *FIRST*

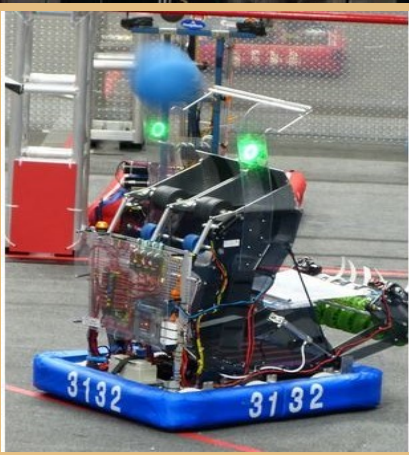
Dean Kamen interview on Leadership, EDTECH DIGEST,
<https://www.edtechdigest.com/2019/06/20/first-things-first-what-was-dean-kamen-thinking/>

I, Wombot (documentary about Team 3132)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NyX-IK_BVzM

More Than Robots (available on Disney+)
Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AjIISbARc20>



Competition Spirit



Thank You



For Your Support