

Event: **SBPLI Long Island Regional**

Submitted: 02/21/2008

Your Team Number: 358

Team Name, Corporate / University Festo / Fonar & Hauppauge High School

Sponsors:

Briefly describe the impact of the FIRST program on team participants with special emphasis on this year and the preceding two years. FIRST has given opportunity to members of Team 358 to learn and perform task that daily engineers perform throughout their career. These task that we learn to perform is important to our team because these task would aid our members in the future to have a successful career in science and engineering. Our team has implemented a workshop system where students are free to go to and they're different kind of workshops which consist of programming, mechanical, and electrical.

Examples of role model characteristics for other teams to emulate. Throughout the season and competition, Team 358 tries to become a role model for others. We try to show sportsmanship and gracious professionalism. Throughout past few years and seasons our team would set up workshops not only for our members but for members of other teams. We also try to aid anyone that needs help such as if someone needs a cart or a software issue that someone has, Team 358 would be the first to volunteer.

Describe the impact of the FIRST program on your team and community with special emphasis on this year and the preceding two years. Throughout the past few years our team has tried to promote our team and FIRST to our community. Over the past four years we have gone to the homecoming parade and displaying our robot to the whole community. We have a booth at the Middle School Science fair trying to spread the word of FIRST to the younger kids and also try to recruit kids to become part of our team and FIRST. Our school also has also recognized us and has added two classes called "robotics" to the curriculum.

Teams innovative methods to spread the FIRST message. Team 358 has been consistently active in spreading the message of FIRST. We participate in many community events including our Homecoming Parade, Safe Halloween, oldies concerts, and Middle School Science fair. We perform our robots at each of these events and show what we have built and what it may do. At each event we would tell kids and parents more about FIRST and about our competition and robots.

Describe the strength of your partnership with special emphasis on this year and the preceding two years. Team 358 has had and still has a great relationship with our sponsor FESTO. FESTO has donated machine shop time and importantly they have given us dedicated, talented, determined engineers who have given their valuable time teachings our members valuable skill. These mentors are reliable and easy to

cooperate with and members learn quickly from them. FONAR has also been one of our sponsors aiding us with parts of our robot and spending their time in helping us build our robot.

Teams communication methods and results.

We have an extensive list of emails and phone numbers of not only the members but also their parents. We would email members of the upcoming events and we tell the parents of what their children would be doing. Also now since facebook are becoming more popular we had created a group call Team 358 Robotics which allows us to update our status for other members to see. Electronic messaging and communication has seen to prove as a efficient method because everyone in our team is always updated.

Other matters of interest to the FIRST judges, if any.

The before the season started we had the honor to host a presentation at our school for other school's superintendent. Through this presentation we showed others schools what our robot can do. Most importantly we spread the word of FIRST to other schools allowing kids from other school to also enjoy this great program.

Images:







Team 358, the FESTO and Fonar sponsored Hauppauge Robotic Eagles, has been a FIRST robotics team for nine years and has taken the role of mentor to many different teams. Being a FIRST robotics team for this long allows us to be a successful team. But being successful means more than doing well on the playing field. FIRST defines success as being an all-around effective organization. Being effective as a FIRST robotics team means aiding teams in need, promoting our club and the message of FIRST, and being successful in competition, while demonstrating gracious professionalism and allowing members to awaken their inner engineering skills. Both on and off the field, Team 358 takes pride in its nine-year success story.

Team 358 does all that it can to benefit other teams, especially those which are new to FIRST and those which are in the process of rebuilding. There are many examples that demonstrate our commitment to accomplishing the mission of FIRST. Throughout the year, for instance, we hold workshops for other teams. We have different workshops for various aspects of the robot, which include programming, electrical work, and pneumatics. Our workshops are categorized at different levels--basic and advanced workshops--in order to provide the needed information to a variety of teams. People that are relatively new to FIRST have the basic workshop to attend, where engineers and members of our team will aid them by providing basic information that they need. Advanced workshops are for people that are more familiar with robotics, but who wish to expand their knowledge. At the advanced workshops, we provide more detailed information for people who already have the skills which would be taught at a basic workshop. This year we provided several programming workshops for those who are not familiar with programming the new IR sensors.

Another way Team 358 tries to assist others is by allowing other teams to use our shop to build parts of their robot. One such team, Roosevelt, used our workshop throughout one entire season, and built the majority of their robot in our shop. Two years ago, we had the

honor of aiding them in creating their rookie year robot, and we still allow them to use our workshop freely. Our desire to help isn't limited to the borders of Long Island. Last year, Team 234, from Indianapolis, needed a cart for their robot to use at the SBPLI regional. Team 358 was the first to volunteer and created a new cart for them to use during the competition. Throughout the competition our members try their best to aid other teams so that they can also see and enjoy their robot on the field.

The term "gracious" means exhibiting courtesy and politeness. "Professionalism" is behavior meeting the highest standards of a profession, in both knowledge and courtesy. For Team 358, Gracious Professionalism combines high standards with politeness, as if both were our second nature. Throughout our team's nine years, we have worked to demonstrate gracious professionalism at every competition we've participated in. Throughout the whole team we try our best to aid others as much as we possibly can. At one of the post-season competitions, rookie Team 2476 didn't have a robot, so we outfitted one of our old ones so it could be used in the game. We not only lent them a robot but also coached them and taught them what they have to look forward to in the coming season. Throughout the games, many teams have run out of batteries, and we would provide an extra to any team that needed one. Scouting is another important aspect of the competition. But some teams don't have the resources or program to perform scouting. We have given scouting programs to other teams, such as Team 558, to help them to understand choices they would have if they were in a position to pick. Throughout the competition, our team, Team 358, constantly aims not simply to win but to show gracious professionalism to other teams, to make the competitions a more enjoyable experience for everyone, and to show the highest possible standards in courtesy and support.

Promoting our team and the ideals of FIRST have been our team's goals since our rookie year. Throughout the year we tell our community about us, encouraging more people from our community to become involved in FIRST. For example, during Homecoming, our team is always in the parade, displaying one of our robots to the community. Throughout the parade people often ask what our robot does. We describe the competition, explain some of how the robot works, and give out candy. Students interested in the robot are encouraged to come to our next meeting.

Homecoming is not the only event where we promote robotics. In October, our school hosts an event called "Safe Halloween," which is a day where several activities for kids are held within the school. We set up booths where kids can go trick or treating. Team 358 runs one of those activities--usually a game that we have created—using one of our robots. For the past two years we have used the "2004" robot and incorporated elements of other games. Each child is given a chance to shoot a 2006 poof ball into a 2003 box held in the arms of our robot. If a poof ball is scored, we give the child a candy prize. This is significant outreach, because throughout the day there aren't only kids that are interested in the robot, but parents also. The parents can potentially become involved with FIRST, either as volunteers or as mentors, whether at Hauppauge or another school.

Each year Team 358 participates in our Middle School Science Fair. We request a booth so that we can demonstrate our previous year's robot. This is extremely important because it promotes FIRST to those that will soon be entering high school. We often hear responses such as "Awesome!" from those viewing our robot and we encourage them to join the LEGO team, which is offered at the Middle School. The LEGO team is a good building block to promote the FIRST ideals and start students into the FIRST program.

We don't limit our promotions of FIRST to our community alone. Our team had the opportunity to present what FIRST is about in front of other districts' superintendents, hoping that they would be interested in implementing the program within their schools also. We showed one of our previous robots and demonstrated what it can do. All of our officers talked about the impact FIRST had upon them. Throughout this presentation, the officers talked about how FIRST has taught them valuable skills that would help them to perform important tasks in their future. Through this presentation, we showed many superintendents that this program would benefit both their community and their students. Team 358 promotes as much as we can to the community, not only about our team, but also about FIRST in general.

Members of Team 358 come in as freshmen, unskilled onlookers, not even knowing what an Allen key is, but after four years the members graduate as engineering enthusiasts. Team 358, the Hauppauge Robotic Eagles, takes a hands-on approach to educating its members in the science of robot building. Our engineers are the mentors of our learning process. Our engineers' expertise varies from electrical to design, mechanical to programming, and more. At every meeting, especially in the beginning of the school year, our members are split into groups depending on the discipline that they want to learn. Each engineer, with the help of older students, teaches the team members about the tools and tasks involved in building a robot. After a few meetings, each student is able to choose which field he or she would like to focus on. But students also learn about the value of teamwork, which is important now and critical in our future careers.

Team 358, the Hauppauge Robotic Eagles, is proud to be a part of FIRST. Each day we strive to become better at what we do. Preparing our members for future endeavors, lending a hand to other teams, and improving our community are what we are best at. FIRST gives us the opportunity to channel our intuition, sportsmanship, and technological skills into one main purpose: to strengthen the foundation for tomorrow's engineers.

This entry was not submitted towards fulfilling the Nasa Grant requirements.

By entering my name below, I agree that I have read my teams Regional Chairman's Award submission and have personal knowledge that statements and claims made are complete and accurate.

Team Captain / Student Representative :
Team Mentor :

Derek Wu
Mark McLeod