



FIRST®

Dean Kamen's vision of FIRST is "to transform our culture by creating a world where science and technology are celebrated, and where young people dream of becoming science and technology heroes." FIRST is an internationally acclaimed organization that hosts an

annual competition which allows more than 200,000 high school students to compete against other teams on a global scale. However, unlike other competitions in which winning by any means is the only option, FIRST holds a standard of "gracious professionalism," where teams share ideas, strategies and even help repair other teams' robots. This emulates the respect and business ethics expected from corporations in the real world. In contrast to most athletic sports where the sport itself is the main focus, FIRST centers around influencing and affecting the community in the most positive ways it can (whether the "community" is a neighborhood or the world). "Coopertition" among students creates a willingness to embark on the hard, long journey of building and battling amongst groups of peers, all brought together by FIRST Robotics. "FIRST is the vehicle – students are the rocket fuel."