



Crevo Chronicle

January

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Greetings

On behalf of everyone at Crevolution Robotics we would like to thank you, our sponsors, for your donations. Without you we would not be able to achieve our goals, and the season would not be able to run smoothly. We will be sending out these monthly newsletters in order to keep you informed on what we are doing and our progress. You will be able to see how far your support will get us throughout the build season. There are also dates of our upcoming competitions located on page 3. We would love for you to attend!

Kickoff to Build Season

FRC kickoff marks the beginning of the build season! Early on January 9th the very enthusiastic and eager students and mentors of Crevolution Robotics got together to watch the kickoff video and learn the rules of the new game for 2016. We received a kit of parts that will be used for the robot throughout the build season. We began strategizing and prototyping in order to find out how we will achieve our goal: breaching and capturing the opponent's stronghold!



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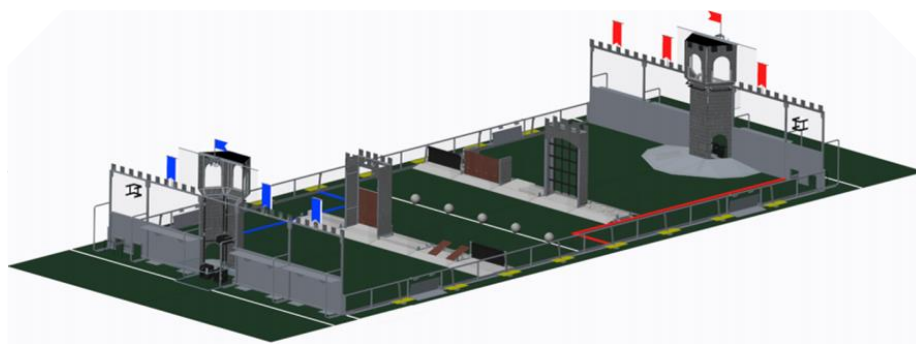
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The Game

"FIRST STRONGHOLD is played by two alliances of three teams each. Alliances compete against each other to breach their opponents' defenses, known as outer works, and capture their tower. They score points by crossing elements of their opponents' outer works, scoring boulders in their opponents' tower goals, and surrounding and scaling their opponents' tower itself."

-2016 FIRST Robotics Game Manual: Stronghold



Link to the video of the game:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VqOKzoHJDjA>

We first went over the game manuals and discussed how we can get points and how we can lose points. By going over what gives us the most points we

began to strategize and prioritize what we want to build for. The most important factors of this game will be versatility and efficiency--building a robot that will be able to breach defenses, weaken the tower and siege the castle both accurately and quickly.

Get to Know the Team



"I'm very hopeful for this season as we are lot more organized in the documentation of all of the prototypes we have made. In addition, being on build this year has taught me to work with new people."

-Ashley Gee (senior, build team)



"I learned how to make joysticks and certain buttons to control certain motors. I like being on the programming team and learning new things about technology."

-Austin Motloch (freshman, programming team)



Prototyping

Although we all had many ideas running through our minds about designs for the robot, we had to take some steps before getting there. As a team we decided on what our priorities would be for FIRST Stronghold. After deciding what would be needed on our robot, Crevolution separated into small groups to "white-board" (brainstorm) possible designs, including ones for crossing moats, lifting drawbridges, and opening gates to breach defenses. Then on Sunday we began by deciding which ideas we would prototype. Some prototypes are still being finalized this week, but we already have a working drive base scaling walls and ridges. The team is finding out that prototyping is essential; members are testing theoretical designs with concrete applications, allowing us to identify problems before going into final production.

COMPETITION DATES

March 24-26

Marysville High School

March 31-April 2

Troy Athens High School

April 13-16

Michigan District
Championship at
DeltaPlex Arena- Grand
Rapids

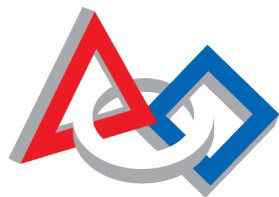
April 27-30

Championship at Edward
Jones Dome-St. Louis

More Organization!

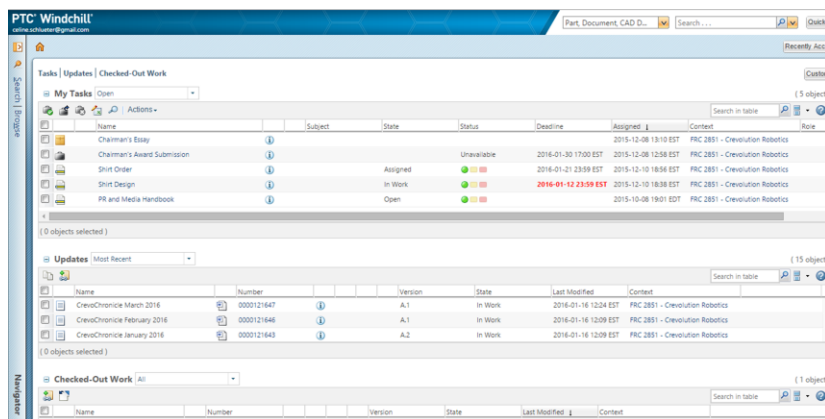
In order to improve the team's organization, Crevolution has started using PTC's Windchill. It allows the team to organize documents, assign tasks, and track progress easily from anywhere at any time. Over these past months it has greatly increased the team's efficiency. "Without Windchill, I had to go to a team member, ask them what they are doing, document it with their progress, and organize that documentation. With Windchill though, I can assign that job online. The recipient can view that job, and comment on their progress all in one place. This makes communication better, and increases the speed and ease with which jobs get done."

–Pietro Pellerito (CEO)



FRC

FIRST® Robotics Competition



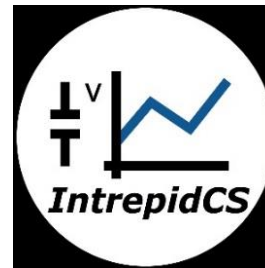
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