



www.TechBrick.com

www.USFIRST.org

# Home School Robotics Club: 2008-09

1603 Belvue Drive  
Forest Hill, MD 21050  
<http://www.techbrick.com>

**We are looking for support from regional & national companies for our robotics and engineering club.** TechBrick is a robotics club formed for home school students in Harford and Baltimore County. After five years we have more than 100 active registrations with a monthly attendance of 25-40 children. This year we will have four competition teams that meet weekly with 30 children and 5 adult coaches. We have numerous participants in math, science, and engineering tracks while in high school or early college attendance.

### Why this program is critical to your company's future.

The club runs under a program called FIRST, founded 15 years ago by Dean Kamen (of Segway Scooter fame). His goal was to create a program in which young students with a strong interest in technology and engineering could get the same type of encouragement that students get in organized sports.

### The Program Has National Support and Value

Dean Kamen has achieved his goal. FIRST now has more than 200,000 global participants with programs serving children ages 7-18. More than one hundred colleges offer scholarships to students who have participated in a FIRST program. Many of the participants who started at the beginning are now employed by these corporations.

**The FIRST program and competitions provide one of the best platforms for young people to get excited about the challenges and rewards of engineering.** They are pushed to the limit on every level: project management, design, research, testing, strategic planning, and more. I expect to look back four or five years from now and see many of our early participants in the workplace providing the innovative solutions we need to maintain our competitive edge.

**Over the past four years we've enjoyed support from local companies. Our program has grown and so have our needs.** Both our elementary-school and high-school teams may make it to the nationals in Atlanta. With more tournaments, more travel, and more equipment, we need the financial assistance of local companies.

### I encourage you to take a few minutes to consider our request.

1. **Scan the TechBrick documents.** It will give you an **overview of TechBrick and FIRST.**
2. **Browse around our [www.TechBrick.com](http://www.TechBrick.com), [www.USFIRST.org](http://www.USFIRST.org) and [www.FIRSTLEGOLeague.org](http://www.FIRSTLEGOLeague.org).** You'll catch a **glimpse of the excitement** that is FIRST and TechBrick Robotics.
3. **Then consider assisting us in our work to develop future engineers.**

**What does sponsorship mean?** As a sponsor you will be listed on our website seen globally by more than 300 visitors per day, included in all literature and marketing materials handed out to each team at our events, acknowledged in email newsletters, displayed, when possible, on our robots, and you'll have the long-term satisfaction of helping build the next generation of engineers and technical leaders.

### I look forward to hearing from you. Please call me with any questions you may have.

**Marco Ciavolino, Lead Mentor / 410-838-8264 / [marco@techbrick.com](mailto:marco@techbrick.com)**

Debbie Dininno, Team Mentor, FLL  
Barbara Hruz, Project Mentor FLL  
Anne & Dave Mayers, Team Mentors, FLL  
Chris Hoppel, Lead Mentor FTC  
Tracey Klein, Lead Mentor, State Director, JrFLL

Nick, Joshua, Taber, Kaia, Malea, John, Michael, Doug, Nate, Jonathan, Cole, Ollie, Ryan, Alie, Caitlin, Andrei, Nathan, Kevin, Nathan, Emily, Jordan, Kaitlyn, Stephen, Bethany, Henry, Charlie, Kade, Rachael, John, Mark, KC, Andy, Jonathan, and Zach.

Future Engineers and Leaders

### Who Supports US First?

#### National Contributors

Global corporations including, Boston Scientific Corporation, Baxter International, Inc., DaimlerChrysler Corporation Fund, Dean Kamen's DEKA Research and Development Corporation, Delphi Corporation, General Motors Corporation, Johnson & Johnson, Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, Motorola, Inc., XEROX Corporation, Autodesk, and Innovation First have given their support to the national program.

#### State Contributors

The Maryland program, hosted by UMBC has had the support of BAE Systems, Booz Allen Hamilton, Comcast, Log.Sec Corporation, National Defense Industrial Association, ORSA Corporation, SAIC, and, Tri\_S, Inc.

#### Local Sponsors

The Better Hour, Broadway Appraisal Company, Madonna Veterinary Clinic, Wittstadt & Wittstadt PA, State Farm Agent Shirley Brunkhorst, Quiznos Sub of Bel Air, Consolidated Printing, WRBS 95.1 FM, Red Brick Station, Senator Nancy Jacobs, \*enktésis, Justin Kase Conder Photographer, Jacobs Environmental, American Scale & Equipment, RedBag Solutions, Canale Graphix, MainBrain