



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Janet Metzger
208-989-9824
janet.metzger@powereng.com

Build Your Champion! Rally Your Kingdom! Local High-School Students Compete at the FIRST® Robotics Competition Inaugural Idaho Regional Event

*Teams Compete in Regional Competition for
Coveted Awards and Chance to Compete at Championship*

Who: Student teams from local school districts and 5 surrounding states will participate in the FIRST® Robotics Competition Idaho Regional event for an opportunity to win regional recognition for design excellence, sportsmanship, teamwork, and more, and advance to the FIRST Championship competition. The public is encouraged to attend, catch the excitement of this intense competition, and cheer on their favorite teams. Admission is free.

In [FIRST STRONGHOLDSM](#), two Alliances of three robots each are on a Quest to breach their opponents' fortifications, weaken their tower with boulders, and capture the opposing tower. Robots score points by breaching opponents' defenses and scoring boulders through goals in the opposing tower. During the final 20 seconds of the Quest, robots may surround and scale the opposing tower to capture it.

FIRST President Don Bosse, Governor Butch Otter and Micron's Mark Durcan will be in attendance to speak out the opening ceremonies on Saturday, April 2 at 8:30 a.m.

NASA Astronaut, Steve Swanson will kick-off qualifying competition on Friday, April 1 at 8:30.

Teams from Lancaster, CA; Fairfield, CA; Poway, CA; Vacaville, CA; SLC, UT; Sacramento, CA; Duluth, MN; Umatilla, OR; Ft. Worth TX; Pittsburg, CA; Berkeley, CA; Walnut, CA; and Santa Barbara, CA will be competing, including local Idaho teams from Nampa, Boise, Twin Falls, Driggs, Pocatello, Rathdrum, Salmon, and Meridian.

What: The FIRST Robotics Competition is a program that challenges high school students – working with professional Mentors – to design and build a robot to contend in competitions that measure the effectiveness of each robot, the power of collaboration, and the determination of students. Teams in the FIRST Robotics Competition Idaho Regional will vie for regional awards and a spot at the FIRST® Championship to be held April 27-30, at the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis, MO. The competition is part of FIRST, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology.

When:

Thursday, March 31	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. - Robot testing and inspection
Friday, April 1	9:00 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. - Opening ceremonies 9:20 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. - Qualifying matches

Saturday, April 2

9:00 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. - Opening ceremonies and Sponsor
keynotes
9:20 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Qualifying matches
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Final rounds matches
3:00 p.m. – Awards & closing ceremonies

Where: Taco Bell Arena at Boise State University

Photo Opp: Students testing, tuning up, and competing with their robots. Watch student teams of two Alliances with three robots each score as many points as possible by breaching opponents' defenses and scoring boulders through goals in the opposing tower. Mentors, school groups, school mascots, family, and fans are cheering on the teams.

About FIRST®

Accomplished inventor [Dean Kamen](#) founded [FIRST®](#) (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) in 1989 to inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Based in Manchester, N.H., *FIRST* designs accessible, innovative programs to build self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills while motivating young people to pursue opportunities in science, technology, and engineering. With support from over 200 of the Fortune 500 companies and more than \$25 million in college scholarships, the not-for-profit organization hosts the [FIRST® Robotics Competition](#) for students in Grades 9-12; [FIRST® Tech Challenge](#) for Grades 7-12; [FIRST® LEGO® League](#) for Grades 4-8; and [FIRST® LEGO® League Jr.](#) for Grades K-3. [Gracious Professionalism®](#) is a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community. To learn more about *FIRST*, go to www.firstinspires.org

###

