Engineering Notebook

2013-14

- Illinois state & North Super Regional Think Award
- World Championship Think nomination

2014-15

- MO State Think Award
- IL State Inspire Award
- IL State Finalist Alliance
- North Super Regional Think Award
- World Championship Think and Control nomination

Presented by:



FTC #7129

Our Purpose For This Document

This is intended to be resource for FTC teams to use in their evaluation of how to set up their engineering notebook

- Purpose of the EN for FTC
- Specific guide lines for the EN
- Ideas for team consideration



WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?



Robo Raiders #7129

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Why an Engineering Notebook?

An introduction to real world requirements

- Lab notebooks in college
- Engineering notebook in industry
- Proof of concept (patent)



Why an Engineering Notebook? Record of team journey throughout the season

Shows development of:

- Robot design
- •Game strategy
- •Team outreach
- Team organization





Why an Engineering Notebook?

To meet FTC requirements:

Important facet of judging
Required for 6 of 7 awards
Represents team to the judges



"The FTC Engineering Notebook is a complete documentation of your team's robot design."

Include: •Sketches •Discussions •Team Meetings •Design Evolution •Processes •Obstacles





The Notebook Guidelines

New this year-Fewer Guidelines

More options for teams





See current year's game manual for exact guidelines

Engineering Notebook Requirements

- Team Number/Name must be on notebook cover
 - Your book will be judged by its cover







Engineering Notebook Requirements

- Attach a summary page to the front cover of the Engineering Notebook.
 - Give the judges an overview of season
 - Include highlights and pages you want them to consider





FTC Notebook Guidelines

Divide notebook into sections 1. Required - Engineering Section -Includes robot design documentation 2. Required - Team Section - Includes team bios and outreach activities 3. Required (Different from last year)- Business Plan -Could be a Business, Strategic or Sustainablity plan



Our Tips With fewer guidelines, these tips might help you complete your EN

Engineering Notebooks should be organized enough that an outsider (e.g. potential sponsor) can understand your team and your journey.





More Tips

Team introduction:



Start the <u>Team Section</u> of your notebook by introducing each team member and mentor with a brief biography of their name, age (or school year), interests, and reasons for joining your FTC team.



More Tips



The Team Section of the **Engineering Notebook is** also a good place to discuss and show team activities that are done throughout the team's season.



Even More Tips

All designs and changes to your robot should be recorded directly into the Engineering <u>Section of your notebook</u>.



Yes, Even More Tips

The inclusion of all details and sketches are preferable. Notes and calculations should be done in your notebook, NOT on loose paper.





AND More Tips

- Insert a copy of your robot's <u>Bill of</u> <u>Materials</u> (BOM) as part of your Engineering Notebook
- No longer required for EN, but still a good idea





Tips for Handwritten Notebooks

Written entries should be in permanent ink – not pencil.

Entries should be made by every team member



Tips for Handwritten

- Use both sides of a page.
- Never leave any white space: "X" out or crosshatch all unused space,
- Sign and date each page.





Tips For Handwritten Notebooks

To insert pictures or outside information into your notebook, tape the picture into your notebook and outline with permanent ink, to note that it was there in case it falls out.

Put the corresponding page number on that inserted information.



Our Tips

In the case of an error, draw a single line through the incorrect data.

(Just like this)

Do NOT erase or use correction fluid. All corrections should be initialed and dated.



IDEAS FOR TEAMS TO CONSIDER





Ideas To Consider

What Notebook style to use?

- Electronic
 - Online
- Handwritten



Ideas To Consider What format to use?

- Task/Reflections/Observations
- Task/Reflections/To Do
- Task/Reflections/Observations/Lessons Learned
- Task/Work Log/Summary
- Task/Work Log/To Do
- Make your own!



Ideas To Consider

Judges want the real thing.

Keep it real ... worn/wrinkled pages ... etc. Don't get behind! Document on same day.

> Judges literally knew we put blood, sweat and tears into our notebook.



Ideas To Consider

What the notebook is not:

ullet

Blog • Journal • Scrapbook



Sample Pages From Our Notebooks







Sample Pages From Our Notebooks

3-31-15 Continued from page 53 Month log. Un finances and new staked and we there mange and the we Sound out the first and Invilling to pay For our world by ment Pictures from North Super Picture of usafra us with Mrs. getting think award Lacis car menter for our norebook this year very extend my ight: us Scouring for our Schuffer Barton



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Our shidsteer cont drive uses chain at a to optimize an spe The wheels are place balance and also assily the axtes are supple chained on each side our wheels firmly in we during stress on the



Ideas To Consider

Preparing for Competition:

- Tab/flag 6 to 8 pages of the very best documentation.
- We gave a short (30 second) blurb about EN in our presentation to judges
- Insert current BOM and clearly tab
- Update summary sheet as needed
- Update table of contents as needed



Ideas To Consider

How we did our notebook

- Examined and tried to follow the rules very closely
- We included the tools that we used to:
 - record information
 - make decisions
 - model our robot
 - and some other things



Where We Get Our Engineering Notebooks

 http://www.bookfactory.com/labnotebooks.html

- Find a layout that your team likes
 - Graph paper?
 - Lined Paper?
 - Sizes?

Ideas To Consider

Different teams, different notebooks

No one template fits all

Customize your Notebook to fit your team personality

What works for your team?



Any questions? Contact your Documentation team.

The Engineering Notebook including the three sections: Eng, Team, and Business Plan is a **team effort** to share your journey with others. Think about the legacy you are leaving for your future team members.



Notebook Resources: Our EN will soon be posted on the USFIRST Website. http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/ftc/teamresources **Other Online Engineering Notebook links: Techno Warriors Advanced** http://ftc-team-3486.wikispaces.com/ Techno Guards http://www.technoguards.org/EngineeringView **Green Army Robotics** http://greenarmyrobotics.org/notebooks Robo Raiders #7129

Notebook Resources

More Online Notebook Resources: Psychotic Strawberries http://www.ortop.org/Documents/FTC_RES_PS/ EngNotebook.pdf

Bounty Hunters

http://www.usfirst.org/sites/default/files/upload edFiles/Robotics Programs/FTC/FTC Documents /EngineeringNotebookFTCTeam2864.pdf



Engineering Notebook

Thank you! If you have any questions, please contact us at:

These slides will be available on our website as a resource. Presented by:



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