ROBOFEST 2015 Exhibition Competition Rules

LAWRENCE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

1-9-15   V1.0

The robotics Exhibition is a great way for students to show off their imagination, innovation and creativity. Each team has complete freedom to create interactive and intelligent robotics projects such as robot pets, robots for scientific experiments, and practical robotics applications. Teams are composed of one to five members. In general, two or three students are recommended per robot. Any material as long as it is safe for humans can be used. Even if human controlled hard-wired remotes are not allowed, *unlike the Game*, wireless (host) computer program control is allowed for Exhibition, if the program is written by students. Robot-to-robot as well as human-to-robot interactions are strongly encouraged. Sensors must be employed to assure the robot is interacting with its environment without just dead-reckoning.

Please go to www.robofest.net and click on the Prior Years link to view Exhibition projects from previous years. There is no required theme for 2015 year. However, you may choose the theme of WRO (World robot Olympiad, wroboto.org) 2015 Open Category. The WRO 2015 theme is *using robots to help humans explore for natural resources in hazardous environments*. If your project meets WRO 2015 open category requirements, your Robofest team may be selected by the WRO USA director, Dr. CJ Chung, to advance directly to WRO USA National Championship to be held in September 2015 at LTU in Michigan.

Projects which have been entered in a previous competition category of any kind must:
* Add new features and/or significantly improve or change one or more features
* Describe the addition & changes in the project description text area of the online team registr. form
* Inform judges that their project is a "continued" form of a previous project, during the official presentation

On the day of the Robofest competition, each Exhibition team will be given a 6ft or 8ft long table on which to display/demonstrate the robots. Teams may choose the floor to demonstrate robots. After the opening ceremony, teams will have maximum **4** minutes to explain and demonstrate their robotics project to the public, possibly using a wireless microphone. Judges will visit the team tables to ask additional questions and inspect program code any time before the final judging. "Silent Judges" may visit teams throughout the day to ask questions, check displays and observe interactions with spectators. These judges will not identify their roles.

Teams must bring all the necessary materials for the Exhibition. For example, if the Exhibition needs background music, the team must bring the music file. The sound system in the hosting site may not be available to play your music. Therefore, it is highly recommended to contact the site host in advance and/or bring a music player and portable speakers. Teams are requested to bring poster boards to describe their projects. Hardcopies of team project documents to give to the judges are a plus, but not required.

We highly recommend each Exhibition team setup a team website and/or publish a video clip on a video sharing site such as YouTube. Judges will use this to preview the team projects and the team will get better scores for the presentation methods category. Teams should plan to show their video to the Judges in case they did not have an opportunity to view the video prior to the competition. The Exhibition team coach can update the online information and the URL using his/her Robofest account.

The judging will be done by using the rubric that can be found on the "Exhibition" page at www.robofest.net, or directly at http://www.robofest.net/robofestExhRubric.pdf

The application of math and science theories that are appropriate to the team members' age level is a strong plus for judging. Even though the use of advanced level skills is fine to use, it may not give any advantage for the judging.

Spectators will decide People's Choice Awards during Michigan Championship and World Championship. Only one vote per person is allowed.