



Oregon Robotics Tournament & Outreach Program
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Middle/High School Student Robotics Teams Advance to FTC West Super-Regional Championship

PORTLAND, OR, February 29, 2016: The Oregon Robotics Tournament & Outreach Program (ORTOP) is pleased to announce the results of the *FIRST* Tech Challenge Championship Tournament held on February 27 and 28, 2016 at Benson Polytechnic High School in Portland. The statewide robotics competition brought together 44 top middle/high school robotics teams to compete with custom-made robots in 1½-day competition: "RES-Q." Earlier this year over 185 teams from around Oregon competed at league meets and qualifying tournaments, and the top-performing teams from these events participated in this weekend's championship.

ORTOP offers the *FIRST* Tech Challenge (FTC) program to help students begin exploring technical careers, and Oregon boasts one of the largest *FIRST* Tech Challenge programs in the nation. Each team is comprised of up to fifteen students in grades 7 through 12 who start the season in the fall by designing and programming a unique robot. The 2015-2016 game, RES-Q, is modeled after rescue situations faced by mountain explorers all over the globe. Played by two alliances of two robots each, robots score points by resetting rescue beacons; delivering rescue climbers to a shelter; parking on the mountain; and parking in the rescue beacon repair zone or floor goal. Robots also score points by retrieving debris from the playing field and placing them in mountain or floor goals, and also by hanging from a pull-up bar during the last 30-seconds of a match.

The **Inspire Award**, the most prestigious award of the competition, went to Batteries in Black, a Washington County 4-H Team. The Inspire Award is given to the team which performed well in all judging categories and was chosen as a model *FIRST* Tech Challenge team. The judges used observations made during interviews and in the pit area, the team's engineering notebook, and performance on the playing field in determining the winner.

Batteries in Black also served as the captain of the **Winning Alliance**. The other teams in the Winning Alliance were SA-BOT-AGE from The Dalles High School and Klamath Coyotes from Eagle Ridge High School.

This weekend's tournament included girls and boys from public and private schools, and from rural and urban communities around the state. Based on their performance at the Oregon Championship, Oregon teams have received invitations to the FTC West Super-Regional Championship, where the top teams from the 13 western states will compete on March 24-26, 2016 in Oakland, California. Here is a table showing the 14 teams that won awards and have been advanced for participation in the Super-Regional.

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Oregon FIRST Tech Challenge Championship Awards – February 28, 2015			
These teams are being invited to the 13-state FTC West Super-Regional Championship			
Award	Team Name	Team Affiliation	Team City
Inspire Award Winner, Winning Alliance Captain and Think Award 2 nd place	Batteries in Black	Washington Co. 4H	Portland
Inspire Award 2 nd place, Finalist Alliance Captain and Rockwell Collins Innovate	Hot Wired Robotics	Spark Technology and Westview High School	Portland
Inspire Award 3 rd Place	Occam's Razor	Hood River Valley HS	Hood River
Winning Alliance, Member Team	SA-BOT-AGE	The Dalles High School	The Dalles
Winning Alliance, Member Team	Klamath Coyotes	Eagle Ridge High School	Klamath Falls
Finalist Alliance, Member Team	The Fellowship of the Robot	Lake Oswego Robotics	Lake Oswego
Finalist Alliance, Member Team	C4	St. Mary's School	Medford
Think Award Winner 1 st Place	Nano Ninjas	STEM 4 Girls	Portland
Connect Award Winner	Team Axis	Neighborhood Team	Lake Oswego
Control Award	Gifted Gears	Access Academy	Portland
PTC Design Award Winner	Trial N' Terror	St. Mary's School	Medford
Motivate Award Winner	Bazinga Bots!	The Dalles High School	The Dalles
Highest rank team in winning division not included above	Mechanical Maniacs	4-H	Roseburg
Highest rank team in finalist division not included above	Eagles	Evergreen Junior High School	Hillsboro

For more information on the FTC program go to www.ortop.org/ftc.

ORTOP thanks its generous sponsors for this event, including Rockwell Collins, the presenting sponsor; Garmin, Google and Intel, platinum sponsors; BPA, Daimler, FIRST Tech Federal Credit Union, Garmin, IBM, Oregon Airshow, Phtech, and Vernier, gold sponsors; Business Oregon, ESI, FEI, ONAMI, and Timbercon, silver sponsors; as well as all its supporting sponsors and its many hard-working volunteers.

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