

Team Number

1538

Regional Selection

San Diego

Team Name

The Holy Cows

Corporation/University Sponsors

A to Z Metal Finishing

BlueChip Machine and Fabrication

High Tech High

KTC Research

Micron Technology

NASA

Nordson Asymtek

Northrop Grumman

Qualcomm

Quality Powder Coating

Red Sea Marketing

SAIC

San Diego County Sheriff's Department

San Diego Unified Office of College, Career & Technical Education

The Berggren Family

The Chan Family

The Fiscko Family

The Tukeman Family

Trish Daley & Judy Bramer Real Estate

Vivid-Hosting

Waterjet West

Briefly describe the impact of the FIRST program on team participants with special emphasis on the 2012/2013 year and preceding two years (500 characters allowed)

The Holy Cow members have opportunities to gain real world skills and life experience through leadership, project planning & management, and presentation. We work alongside

industry professionals, which in-turn gives us career and internship opportunities.

- 100% of Holy Cows alumni pursue higher education
- 95% of Holy Cows alumni pursue STEM majors
- Students learn valuable engineering and business skills
- Students give back to their community
- Students build confidence, gain social skills, and have fun

Examples of role model characteristics for other teams to emulate (500 characters allowed)

The Holy Cows recognize that FIRST is the future. Our team is larger and competitive, but we still focus on student growth.

- Structured like a business: directors/managers of various departments
- Calf to Cow: internal mentoring supports sustained growth
- Mentor/student collaboration
- Students from 3 different schools
- FRC Support: Kit Bot Build Day, Workshops, Rookie Mentoring, Resource Sharing, Mobile Machine Shop, Practice Field
- mentored 35 FLL & FTC teams, host FLL & FTC Qualifying Tournaments

Describe the impact of the FIRST program on your team and community with special emphasis on the 2012/2013 year and preceding two years (500 characters allowed)

- Spread word of FIRST, as four neighboring high schools adopted robotics programs
- 16% of HTH student population on team
- Created two elective FIRST robotics courses at HTH
- Partnered with SD Mayor to establish “FIRST Day San Diego”
- Working with local politicians to establishing a statewide “FIRST Day”
- Working towards getting FIRST recognized as a HS sport in CA.
- Collaborating with San Diego Unified School District to offer more FIRST opportunities to students
- Reached 400,000 people in the past 2 years

Team’s innovative methods to spread the FIRST message (500 characters allowed)

- Social Media presence (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, website); Facebook has over 1500 “likes” & thousands of views weekly
- Co-host Battle at the Border, off season competition
- Use past robots & mini-robots as interactive learning tools
- Many media appearances - newspapers & television programs, including 1 hour special on Wealth TV
- Created E-Store to sell E-Watt Savers and team gear

- Volunteered at over 98 community and FIRST events in the past 3 years, amassed more than 20,000 service hours since 2008

Describe the strength of your partnership with special emphasis on the 2012/2013 year and the preceding two years (500 characters allowed)

- Partnership with BlueChip 9 years
- Students work with mentors - earn travel money
- Annually present sponsor the Founder's Award
- Sponsors offer member training
- 6 years running AEA Festival
- Raised over \$1200 for American Cancer Society
- 5 years attend the Society of Laboratory Automation and Screening Conference
- 2 years International Council on Systems Engineering STEM Fundraiser.
- Demonstrated at CA STEM Summit
- Showed robot 2012 ARCS Dinner
- Creating teacher workshop for SD Festival of Science & Engineering

Team's communication methods and results (500 characters allowed)

Due to effective communication methods, our team of over 50 students is able to interact and maintain high levels of participation.

- Team Blog updated during build season with details from each department (engineering and PR)
- Communication through Google Docs and Groups
- Team-wide calendar
- Weekly leadership meetings and year-round team meetings to train members
- Parent created network to provide food, transportation, and support for the team
- Monthly newsletter to parents and team members

Other matters of interest to the FIRST judges, if any (500 characters allowed)

- Three-time WFA regional winners
- Regional Chairman's winners 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012
- Visited by FIRST President Jon Dudas due to exemplary reputation
- Championship Motorola Quality Award
- IRI Mentor of the Year winner