



PALMETTO

PARTNERS

PREPARING TOMORROW'S
TECHNICAL WORKFORCE

Jack Moore

VP Business Dev SE

Peerless Technologies Corporation

Off: 843 718-4592

Cell: 843 425-3080

Email: jdmoor1@Comcast.net

**Chairman Palmetto Partners for Science
and Technology**

Organization Purpose and Activities:

Palmetto Partners for Science and technology is exclusively charitable and educationally scientific. A non-profit organization that is a 501(c)(3) that was formed in 2004 and operates exclusively to encourage and promote the educational and career pursuit of science and technology. The primary goal of Palmetto Partners is to focus on inspirational education that gives students the opportunity to obtain skills and knowledge to prepare for an advanced-technology based careers in South Carolina. The improved workforce in this area will improve the economic outlook for South Carolina. In 2003 a group of CEO's in SC, led by Harry Lightsey, President of BellSouth, the University Of SC School Of Engineering and the SC Department of Education were granted the opportunity by the First Foundation to host a regional robotic competition in the spring of 2004.

Thus, began the Palmetto Regional First Robotic Competition at the Colonial Center in Columbia, SC. The purpose of all of the First events is to give students the opportunity to develop teams to build robots that compete in games designed by the First Foundation and put into practice skills and knowledge learned. Palmetto Partners sponsors The Palmetto Regional and have also moved into the VEX Robot world. Our goal is to make Robotics a part of the Education Process K thru 12.

Primary Mission _ The primary goal of Palmetto Partners is to focus on inspirational education that gives students the opportunity to obtain skills and knowledge to prepare for an advanced-technology based careers in South Carolina which will improve the economic outlook for South Carolina

This Palmetto Partners' focus is on all students in SC public, private, charter and home school.

EXPENSES FOR 2013 FRC

INS		4097		
FERN/TABLES ETC		6008.1		
av CONNECTION		33,995		
NELSON PRINTING		1439.49		
SHERATON		19,201.63	FOOD, ROOMS ETC	
MYRTLE BEACH CONV	19,820.00			
EMS	1470			
Frank lanford		23,333.40		
DEP		1000		
		89074.62		
First		40,000		
TOTAL		129,075		

***FIRST* Palmetto Regional Robotics Tournament**

Myrtle Beach Convention Center
February 28 – March 2, 2013



Robots and their student-creators swarmed the Myrtle Beach Convention Center during the Palmetto Regional *FIRST* Robotics Competition, February 28 to March 2, 2013.



FIRST Palmetto Regional Robotics Tournament

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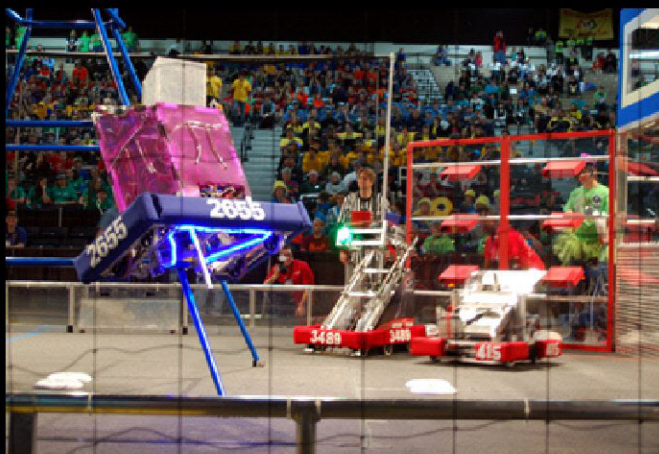


In all, 65 teams of high school students from 12 states, the District of Columbia and Brazil took part in the tournament.



***FIRST* Palmetto Regional Robotics Tournament**

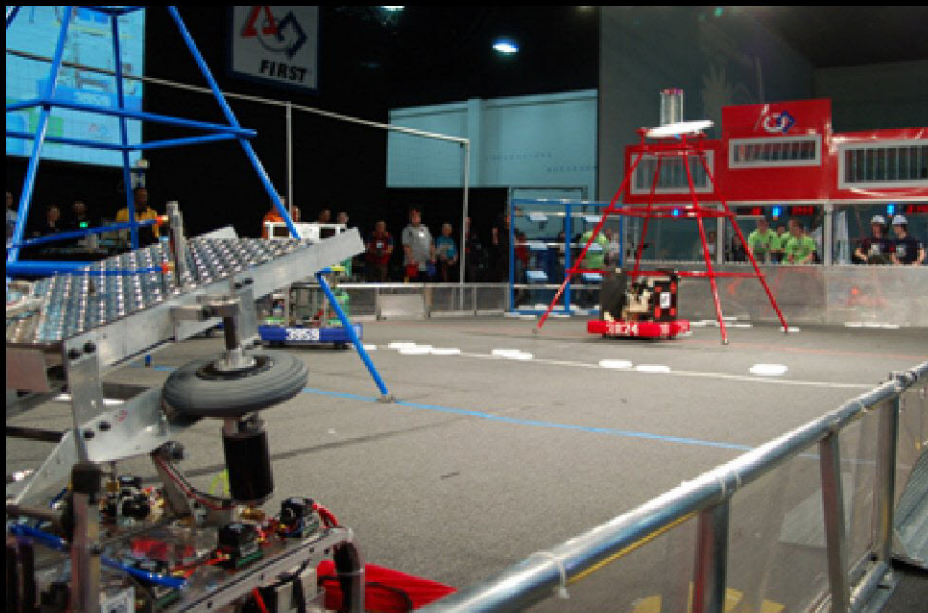
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The competition was fast-paced and exciting for the crowd of 3,000 spectators who filled the Exhibit Hall seats both days. Organizers had to turn away volunteers who wanted to help with the tournament.

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This year's robot challenge was called "Ultimate Ascent." Students received a kit of parts, without instructions, then had six weeks to build a robot as part of this international competition.

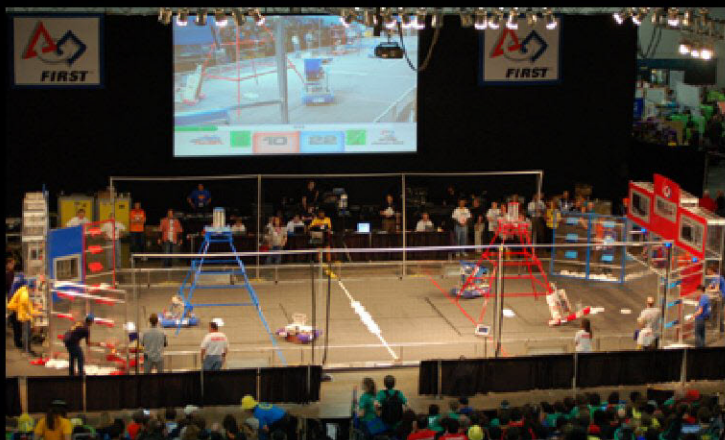


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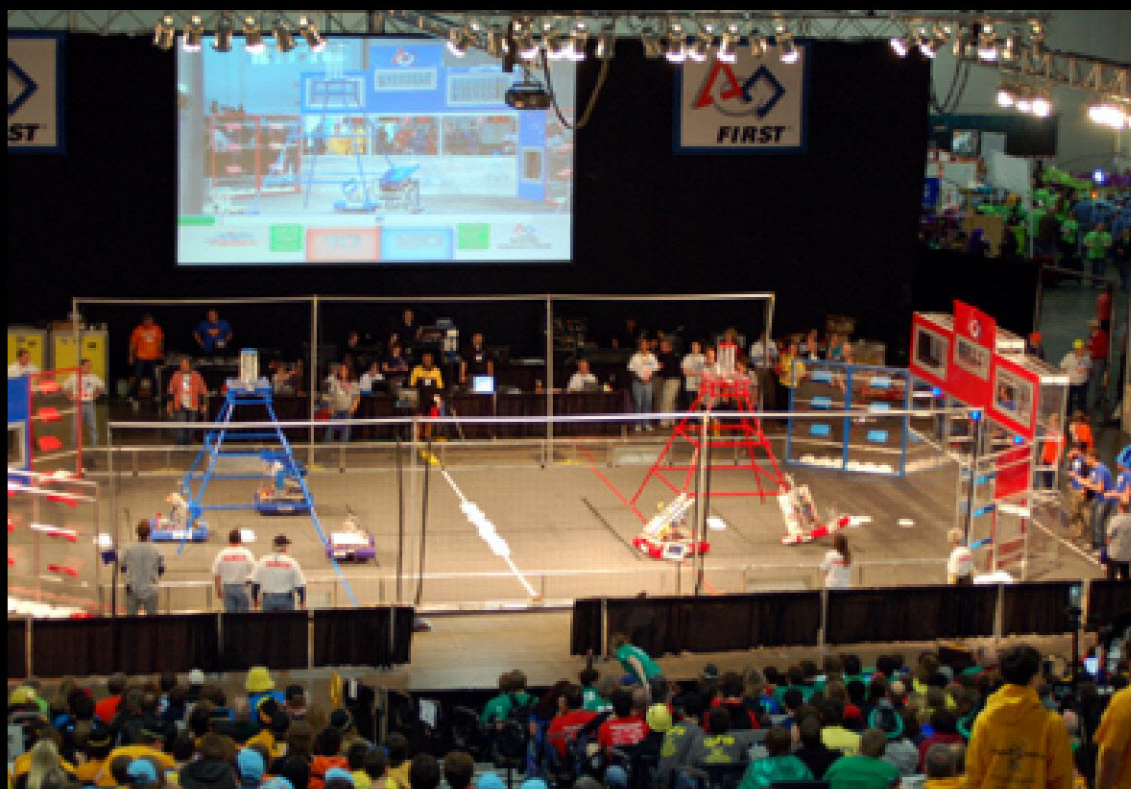
Nine Horry County schools took part, with Conway's Academy of Technology and Academics one of three teams advancing to the world finals in St. Louis.



FIRST Palmetto Regional Robotics Tournament

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This was the largest regional in the 10-year history of the South Carolina event. Most are capped at 50 teams, but this was expanded to 65 teams to meet the demand. It sold out in less than five minutes.

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Sponsorship support is key to keeping the regional here in Myrtle Beach. The event needs upwards of \$100,000 in funding.

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The event generated an estimated 5,600-plus room nights. Previously, the regional spent three years each in Greenville, Columbia and North Charleston. Myrtle Beach could become the permanent home.

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Summary...

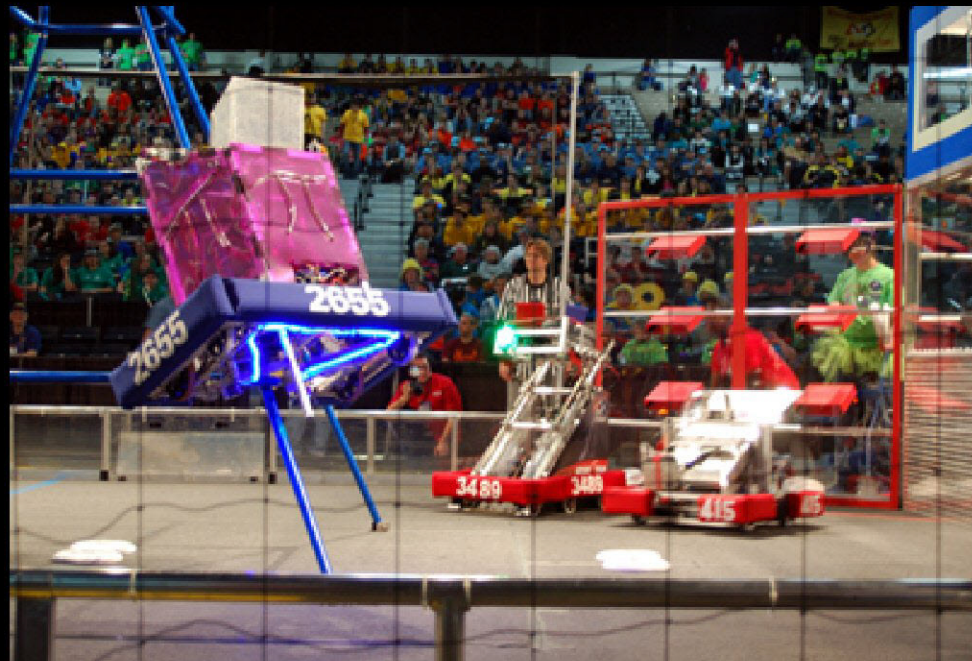
Part of an international event focused on STEM

National exposure for technology and industry

5,600 winter room nights

2013 largest regional ever

Myrtle Beach could be permanent home



2014 ? ? ?