

## Lee's Summit High School 'Team Driven' 1730 Robotics Team Presents 'The Pizza Box' to Sioux Chief Executive Team

Home from the 2013 FIRST Robotics Competition World Championships in April, Lee's Summit High School's FIRST robotics team #1730, Team Driven, recently presented their achievement to sponsor, Sioux Chief, in Peculiar, Missouri.

**Kansas City, Missouri - June 05, 2013** – Kansas City rough plumbing manufacturer, Sioux Chief, sponsored a portion of Team Driven's needed funds to participate in the **FIRST Robotics** Competition World Championships in St. Louis in April where they placed 120th out of a field of 400.

### Watch the video.

As a sign of gratitude, Team Driven travelled to Peculiar, Missouri, to present their vision turned robot, Ultimate Ascent, also known as **The Pizza Box**. The student team had earlier been announced the winner of the Kansas City "Engineering Inspiration Award," qualifying them to compete at the FIRST Robotics Competition.



Students presented the history of Team Driven and the **FIRST Robotics**

Program as well as their process of design which includes starting from scratch with basic criteria provided by NASA, including an animation and rules, in January of each year. The project requires the student team to build a decision making matrix in order to decide the best design for the group each year. Next, winning ideas are prototyped then developed with Computer Aided Design (CAD), followed by the manufacturing their own parts. Altogether, seven sub-teams range from CAD, machining, building, communication, programming, logistics and web design.

**Team Driven** achieved its goal of an all student designed and built robot that plays frisbee by shooting frisbee disks into a ten foot high goal. At the end of the game, the robot had to climb up a pyramid elevating itself off of the ground.

Team Driven was formed in 2005 with a grant from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and is made up of 50+ students, 20+ mentors, and a robot. Team Driven has competed in a total of 13 regional competitions in its history and has gone to the World Championships 6 times in the 8 years it has been competing. The students build at least two models, one for competition and one for practice. They manage their own fund raising and travel in order to compete with teams from America and 15 other countries during the school year.

"The students further not only their knowledge of motors, gear ratios, and pneumatics, but also challenge themselves with communications, logistics, CAD modeling, 3D animation, web design, and other areas of the FIRST experience," said Team Driven head coach, Jim Nazworthy. The FIRST programs are the brainchild of Dean Kamen, inventor of the Segway Human Transporter. Kamen's vision is "to create a world where science and technology are celebrated... where young people dream of becoming science and technology heroes."

Dean Kamen founded this organization because he saw the number of students with science and technology degrees in the United States decreasing every year and more and more jobs were being outsourced. This challenge continues today, but thanks to the FIRST programs with their mission to get students interested in technology careers, more and more students have found their place in the world of science and technology.

Numerous Team Driven students have plans to go on to college or university for mechanical and/or aerospace engineering degrees.

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### More About Sioux Chief:

Since 1957, Sioux Chief has manufactured innovative plumbing products. It is a leader in providing rough plumbing solutions for residential, commercial, industrial and government applications. Sioux Chief's comprehensive product line is comprised of three core groups: Supply, Drainage and Support. Sioux Chief products are sold to qualified wholesale distributors and retailers worldwide. The company is headquartered in Peculiar, Missouri — just outside of Kansas City.

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