

### All Rookie Meet and Greet

**Who's Invited:** All 2008 Rookie Teams!! (and any veterans that want to meet this year's great rookie teams!)

**When:** Friday, from Noon to 1pm

**Where:** Lawn under the photo banner in the Courtyard

**What's Happening:** Fun Introduction Game, Distribution of Great Rookie packets with tons of information on Atlanta & your upcoming years, Meet & Greet other Rookie Teams! Find out what it took for them to get to Atlanta!

**Bonuses!!:** Free Prizes for Rookies!! Group Photo of all Rookie Teams (emailed to you!!), Rookie Summary Booklet - get some great info on all the Rookies at Championships!



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**Harris RF Communications**  
**Penfield High School, Penfield NY**  
[www.penfieldrobotics.com](http://www.penfieldrobotics.com)

This information was gathered and organized by Team 1511, Rolling Thunder, from USFIRST.org, Chief Delphi Forums, Team Websites, team 1411's scouting database, TheBlueAlliance.com and local news reports. Care has been taken to be as accurate as possible. Since all of our summaries are intended to be positive, it is hard to go wrong. However, if we did, we humbly apologize!



## Rolling Thunder Team 1511 Presents

### Meet the Rookies of 2008!

During the 2008 competitive season, 317 rookie teams participated in 44 Regional Competitions (including Brazil and Israel). All of the 317 Rookie Teams are winners, and we applaud their efforts and their accomplishments!

Not all Rookie Teams can make it to the FIRST Championship... We hope you will agree that the 44 Rookie Teams competing this week in Atlanta represent the "Best of the Best"! To help you get to know them we have prepared this overview of each of the Rookie Teams.

These teams:

- Competed at 38 Regional competitions
- Received 38 Rookie All Star Awards
- 3 Rookie Inspiration Awards
- 15 Highest Rookie Seeds

They also picked up awards for Engineering Inspiration, Regional Champions, Regional Finalists, Xerox Creativity, Website, Delphi Driving Tomorrow's Technology, and Rookie Inspiration. Wow!

These teams:

- Were alliance partners in 34 quarterfinal rounds (sometimes as captains)
- With 24 making it to the semi-finals, 10 moving on to the finals, and 8 teams were Regional Champions!

They have met all the challenges, some with surprising ease and some with great grit and determination. They have done Dean's Homework, formed partnerships with their schools, mentors, and communities and learned the meaning of Gracious Professionalism.

They have come to regional competitions with robots that performed, strategies that worked, spirit that shined, unique imagery, awesome technology and savvy well beyond their rookie year. We are awed by their achievements! Welcome to the FIRST Championship!

Thanks to all the teams for welcoming the rookies, sharing ideas, tools, **and** expertise to make sure that they had a great first year. Thanks for picking them up when they fell, treating them gently when they were bruised and considering them as equals in competition! You make great role models!

From rookie and veteran team alike, thanks to our schools and our communities and most of all our sponsors for their support and financial backing. We thank our teachers, advisors, and parents for teaching, advising, and giving us the opportunity to let us test our wings. We thank our mentors for giving up all of their free time to guide us, design with us, build with us, push us, and inspire us. Rookies – we expect great things from you! And we know you will continue to amaze us in the years to come! Let's engage our overdrives!

### Rah Cha Cha Ruckus IV (RCCR 2008)

Going to be in the Rochester Area around Halloween? Don't know what to do with your Overdrive 'bot? How about joining the off-season party? Not only do you get to compete in a competition put together by a great committee, but you also get to have a great time! You can even come in costume, so can your robot! Check out:

<http://www.ruckus.penfieldrobotics.com> for more information.



**Team: 2557 Name: Renegades**

**From:** Tacoma, WA, USA

**Sponsors:** Tacoma School of the Arts High School

**Awards:** Microsoft Seattle Regional: Rookie All Star, Regional Finalist

**Fun Fact:** This "Renegade" team made up of 20 students became rookie all stars. Joined with team 1778, 948, and 1889, team 2557 became finalist at the regional after placing 20th in the Qualification matches.

**Team: 2591 Name: The Redtails**

**From:** Detroit, MI, USA

**Sponsors:** Davis Aerospace Technical High School

**Awards:** Great Lakes Regional: Rookie All Star

**Fun Fact:** Creating a SuperNova at the competition, watch out for their hurdling robot with its bright red bumpers on the field! SuperNova had a chance to test its arm-bot at the Kettering Kickoff.

**Team: 2614 Name: MARS**

**From:** Morgantown, WV, USA

**Sponsors:** West Virginia University / NASA & Mountaineer Area Robotics & Mountaineer Boys and Girls Club

**Awards:** Pittsburgh Regional: Regional Champion, Rookie All Star

**Fun Fact:** With team members from two large and typically rival schools, MARS has built on the base of a successful FLL team, and is reaching back into their community with a goal of starting an FLL team in each middle school in their county.

**Team: 2630 Name: Thunderbolts**

**From:** Emek hefer, Central, Israel

**Sponsors:** Tapuach Hapais

**Awards:** Israel Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed

**Fun Fact:** Watch out for this "fast as lightning" team composed of 3 different schools from their surrounding area. The Thunderbolts have roots from team 1950. Be sure to stop by their pit and say Shalom!

## 2008 Rookie Factoids

### Girls, Girls, Girls!

There are 2 all-Female qualifying rookie teams this year: 2437 (Lancer Robotics), and 2340 (Naza.r.e.X)! Girl Power!

### Give me an F, give me an I, give me an R-S-T!

The Engineering Inspiration award was given to rookie team 2424, an incredible achievement for the Bixby Robotics!

### Travelling Far?

There are several rookie teams that give the international FIRST competition its name, including 2630, The Thunderbolts from Israel, 2629, The Halcones from Mexico, and 2575 The Hurricanes from Brazil. We welcome our neighbors from the South and East!

### This IS SPARTA!...

The Spartans! There are 3 teams with Spartans school nicknames: 2424, 2518, and 2459. Two of the three teams named their robot Leonidas!

### The following Rookie teams qualified for Atlanta but are not attending:

- Team 2559 San Diego Regional All-Star
- 2387 Buckeye Regional All-Star
- 2456 UC Davis Sacramento Regional All Star
- 2668 Philadelphia Regional All-Star

We'll miss you and hope to see you again next year!

### There is more than one Rookie team whose number is Prime!

Bring a list of Rookie teams with prime numbers and you could win a prize at the All Rookie Meet and Greet!

## Archimedes

**Team:** 2335 **Name:** Sargon

**From:** Prairie Village, KS, USA

**Sponsors:** Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation & Shawnee Mission East High School

**Awards:** Kansas City Regional: Rookie All Star

**Fun Fact:** Conquering through Cooperation and naming their robot "The Brave Little Toaster," SARGON posted regular updates on their website. Sargon is an acronym for Sargon: A Robotics Gang Of Noobs? What will their name be when they're not noobs anymore?

**Team:** 2342 **Name:** Phoenix Robotics

**From:** Merrimack, NH, USA

**Sponsors:** NASA / BAE SYSTEMS / NYPRO, Inc / Precision Manufacturing, L.L.C. / Daniel Webster College / Greater Nashua FIRST Robotics, Inc. & Greater Nashua Area High Schools

**Awards:** BAE New Hampshire Regional: Rookie All Star

**Fun Fact:** 12 students, 8 schools, 2 states, the unique team of Phoenix Robotics built their robot Fenix I. Their motto is about: Ex Cinis Cineris which is Latin for "Rise from the Ashes."

**Team:** 2377 **Name:** "C Company"

**From:** Pasadena, MD, USA

**Sponsors:** St. John Properties / NASA-GSFC / SAIC / Northrop Grumman / Harris Corp. & Chesapeake High School (AA)

**Awards:** Chesapeake Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed

**Fun Fact:** The C Company team has structured themselves like a professional sports team, as well as putting in place an ISO 9001 style quality system and a 5-year business plan. The robot was built with students in 8th-10th grade. They have their build space in a shopping plaza which is open to the general public when the team is working.

**Team:** 2424 **Name:** Bixby Robotics

**From:** Bixby, OK, USA

**Sponsors:** Bill and Diana Beaulieu / Camden Homes / Hambone Management, LLC / Hydraquip / J. H. Davidson & Associates / WhitewayChristmas.com / Kimberly Clark & Bixby High School

**Awards:** Oklahoma City Regional: Engineering Inspiration

**Fun Fact:** Bixby Robotics made quite the fashion statement at their regional wearing different outfits every day with striking Orange suits on the final day which were tailored by the drive team. The entire team maintains a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

**Team:** 2449 **Name:** OOObots

**From:** Tempe, AZ, USA

**Sponsors:** Orbital Sciences/Science Foundation AZ & James Madison High School & Marcos De Niza High School

**Awards:** Arizona Regional: Rookie All Star, Xerox Creativity

**Fun Fact:** This team is far from being "out of orbit". With a mix of students from two different schools, these students united together and became rookie all stars. Be to check out their website which will make you go "OOO!"

**Team:** 2415 **Name:** Westminster WiredCats

**From:** Atlanta, GA, USA

**Sponsors:** NASA/Women in Technology- Atlanta GA/Georgia Institute of Technology RoboJackets/The Shanor Family/www.sevaa.com & Kell High School Team 1311 & The Westminster Schools-High School

**Awards:** Peachtree Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed

**Fun Fact:** This "Green Team" is committed in having a deep and lasting impact on our community. More than just a team color, Green defines their mission and message. Focusing on the importance of diversity, they received a grant from "Women in Technology"

**Team:** 2430 **Name:** Cyber Storm

**From:** Greenwood, SC, USA

**Sponsors:** Capsugel/FujiFilm Inc./Partnership Alliance/Piedmont Technical College & GRIP (Greenwood Robotics Interactive Partners)

**Awards:** Palmetto Regional : Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed

**Fun Fact:** CyberStorm formed a 4H club called GRIP (Greenwood Robotics Interactive Partners) to extend their reach into the community. Using a variety of robotic platforms and hosting an FLL scrimmage they are working on the goal of "Youth GRIPing Technology."

**Team:** 2455 **Name:** Dragons

**From:** Honoka'a, HI, USA

**Sponsors:** Echrays / Joint Astronomy Centre / TATA Built Technology / NASA / W.M. Keck Observatory & Honoka'a High School

**Awards:** Hawaii Regional: Rookie All Star

**Fun Fact:** Aloha! Small in resources but big in heart and effort, the Dragons' flew right though Hawaii to become the rookie all stars at their regional. With grants from NASA, Hawaii FIRST and BAE, the team and their green bumper robot Sally, will play on Newton.

**Team:** 2483 **Name:** Clawbotz

**From:** Fayetteville, NC, USA

**Sponsors:** NASA / Dupont-Fayetteville Works & Westover High School

**Awards:** NASA / VCU Regional: Rookie All Star

Palmetto Regional: Regional Champion

**Fun Fact:** Team Clawbotz promote their name every chance they get which stands for Competitive Learners Always Win. These students from the Engineering Academy worked with their sponsors to give them an outstanding professional look that promotes the development of technological and engineering design.

**Team:** 2543 **Name:** Titan-BOT

**From:** Chula Vista, CA, USA

**Sponsors:** FIRST Robotics / Qualcomm / BAE Systems / Mr. & Mrs. Garcia / Mr. & Mrs. Elder / Jack West CNC INC. / Mr. & Mrs. Arteaga & Eastlake High School

**Awards:** Colorado Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed

San Diego Regional: Rookie Inspiration

**Fun Fact:** Mixing FRC with BotBall Titan-Bot has shown that they can excel at both. Winning all three rookie awards, and a safety recognition at their two regionals, the team also has a bilingual website.

**Team:**        **2599 Name: Full Throttle**  
**From:**        CHULA VISTA, CA, USA  
**Sponsors:** NASA / QUALCOMM Incorporated / Dynege & Alternative Education, Sweetwater School District High School  
**Awards:**        San Diego Regional: Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** This inspirational team from a non-traditional learning atmosphere has shown how the interest of a few students and teachers can grow to become a big part of the community. They have gone way past "full throttle" as everyone on the team has grown so much though FIRST, always keeping up their spirits though one phrase. "We're going to Atlanta!" And here they are!

**Team:**        **2621 Name: Bucs**  
**From:**        Bedford, MA, USA  
**Sponsors:** Entegris / FLIR Systems & Bedford High School  
**Awards:**        Connecticut Regional: Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** These rookie all stars are a phenomenon. The 20 students really dedicate themselves to the team as they follow their motto. "We didn't build it because we're awesome, we're awesome because we built it."

**Team:**        **2638 Name: "The Rebellion"**  
**From:**        Great Neck, NY, USA  
**Sponsors:** Great Neck South High School  
**Awards:**        SPBLI Regional: Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** Taking the Rebels theme from their HS Mascot, "The Rebellion" uses FIRST as the hands on part of a full year robotics class. Their fiery website has Rookies Helping Rookies Resources.

## Newton

**Team:**        **2338 Name: Gear It Forward!**  
**From:**        Oswego, IL, USA  
**Sponsors:** Caterpillar, Inc./NASA & Oswego East High School  
**Awards:**        Midwest Regional: Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** Team 2338, Gear It Forward!, have a website completely designed by students on the team with a countdown to Atlanta! The site is very flashy! Get it? It was built using Adobe Flash CS3 Professional!

**Team:**        **2352 Name: Metal Mayhem**  
**From:**        Ada, OK, USA  
**Sponsors:** Chickasaw Nation & Pontotoc Technology Center  
**Awards:**        Oklahoma City Regional: Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** Metal Mayhem is sponsored by the Native American Chickasaw Nation in Oklahoma. They were honored when the Chickasaw Governor was on hand to present them with their trophies.

**Team:**        **2472 Name: Centurions**  
**From:**        Circle Pines, MN, USA  
**Sponsors:** Medtronic / Solid Design Solutions, Inc / St. Paul Machine & Design, Inc / Safe Operation Service, Inc / Abbey Carpet / ESG Architects, Inc & Centennial Senior High School  
**Awards:**        Minnesota Regional: Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** Watch out for Hercules 1! These rookie all stars from Minnesota saw semi-final action as alliance captains after placing the seventh seed. Look out for their lifting atlas robot out on Archimedes.

**Team:**        **2518 Name: Spartans**  
**From:**        Inver Grove Heights, MN, USA  
**Sponsors:** St. Jude Medical & Simley High School  
**Awards:**        Minnesota Regional: Regional Champion  
**Fun Fact:** The Spartans are always prepared for glory. They held an invite for local teams to test and show off their robots before shipping. In Spartan fashion, their robot is named Leonidas, and he fulfilled his destiny by becoming a Regional Champion.

**Team:**        **2550 Name: Pioneer Robotics Organization**  
**From:**        Oregon City, OR, USA  
**Sponsors:** Autodesk Inc. / Starbucks / Taco Del Mar / URS Electronics / Sunstone Circuits / SAO- Tech start / Phoenix Gold / NASA / Mentor Graphics & Oregon City School District  
**Awards:**        Oregon Regional: Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** These "Pioneers" in FRC have come from a mix of students throughout their district with some participating in either their FTC team, FLL teams, or one of their robotics clubs. They not only won the regional's Rookie All-Star award, but also team 1510's Rockin' Rookie award and team 2002's "This Rookie Rocks! Award".

**Team:**        **2575 Name: White Hurricane**  
**From:**        Santa Branca, SP, Brazil  
**Sponsors:** B&S Solutions/Rotary Clube Santa Branca & Escola Estadual Prof. Waldemar Salgado High School  
**Awards:**        Brazil Regional: Regional Champion, Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** The Brazilian "Hurricanes" e nro vamos desistir jamais (won't give up ever)! They have big expectations as they develop the knowledge to continue to grow and learn and are always looking for new ways to intergrate FIRST into the

**Team:**        **2604 Name: Metal and Soul**  
**From:**        Capac, MI, USA  
**Sponsors:** Witco, Inc. / The Chrysler Foundation / Sterling Tool, Inc. / Champion Steel / Keihin Michigan Mfg. & Capac Community Schools  
**Awards:**        West Michigan Regional: Regional Champion, Rookie All Star, UL Safety Award  
**Fun Fact:** Full of metal and a lot of soul, "Metal and Soul" warmed up at the Kettering Kickoff and then paired up with team 2171, 71, and 2064 to drive its way to winning its regional. The team supports each other with their motto "The team doesn't let the Team fail".



**Team:** 2624 **Name:** BotCatz  
**From:** Toronto, ON, Canada  
**Sponsors:** The University of Toronto -- Engineering Faculty & The Bishop Strachan School  
**Awards:** Greater Toronto Regional: Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** Watch out for their BobCat out on the field. Team 2624 worked diligently as team which led to becoming the Greater Toronto rookie all-stars. Their mascot may have pointed edges but at least their robot does not!

## Curie

**Team:** 2337 **Name:** EngiNERDs  
**From:** Grand Blanc, MI, USA  
**Sponsors:** FANUC Robotics America/The Chrysler Foundation/Davison Tool & Engineering, L.L.C./Premier Tooling Systems/Faurecia Automotive Seating/Diversified Machine, Inc. & Grand Blanc High School  
**Awards:** Detroit Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed  
West Michigan Regional: Highest Rookie Seed, Xerox Creativity  
**Fun Fact:** Starting strong at the Kettering Kickoff, the EngiNERDs were the highest rookie seed at both regionals they competed in. You'll get a kick out of their robot, Das Boot, as it boots the ball over the overpass! Its Mario Hammer time!

**Team:** 2344 **Name:** The Saunders Droid Factory  
**From:** Yonkers, NY, USA  
**Sponsors:** Dr. Andrew and Judith Economos Foundation / Crane Co. / NASA / Con Edison / Manhattan College School Of Engineering / Dott-Communications, LLC & Saunders Trades and Technical High School  
**Awards:** NYC Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed  
Connecticut Regional: Rookie Inspiration  
**Fun Fact:** Saunders is running a Droid Factory that has produced its first robot, Linda which smoothed out some bumps at its first regional to impress at NYC. This team won all three rookie awards this year!

**Team:** 2410 **Name:** Metal Mustang Robotics  
**From:** Overland Park, KS, USA  
**Sponsors:** Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation & Blue Valley North High School  
**Awards:** St. Louis Regional: Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** This 20 member team took Dean's homework seriously and pursued their hometown newspaper to track their progress during the build season. Forming a team was part of a dream for a HS Engineering club and it has paid off for its members!

**Team:** 2429 **Name:** LCE  
**From:** La Cadada, CA, USA  
**Sponsors:** Jet Propulsion Lab & La Canada High School  
**Awards:** Los Angeles Regional: Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** Meeting during homeroom and with lunch period technical speakers, the LC Engineering Club developed their skills and recruited with smaller robots and home projects such as a motorized skateboard and a Jacobs's ladder. School outreach included Robot Haiku!

**Team:** 2437 **Name:** Lancer Robotics / Alphabots  
**From:** Honolulu, HI, USA  
**Sponsors:** Okada Trucking Co., Ltd. / NASA / Stryker Consulting, Inc. / Trimble Foundation & Sacred Hearts Academy  
**Awards:** Wisconsin Regional: Rookie All Star  
Hawaii Regional: Regional Finalist, Rookie Inspiration  
**Fun Fact:** This all girl team is crazy about robots! They have begun to lead their school by raising community awareness on the importance of robots and competing with Gracious Professionalism. They have begun to lead their team into the future by also helping out a lego league in their school.

**Team:** 2468 **Name:** Chap Robotics  
**From:** Austin, TX, USA  
**Sponsors:** NASA / National Instruments / Luminary Micro / MLC CAD Systems & Eanes Independent School District  
**Awards:** Lone Star Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed  
**Fun Fact:** 2-4-6-8! Team Appreciate!?! Competing and succeeding both in BEST and in FIRST, Chap Robotics has overcome some challenges to form a strong team with outreach programs including tutoring mentoring and spreading science and technology as a whole.

**Team:** 2487 **Name:** Mechanical Animals  
**From:** West Sayville, NY, USA  
**Sponsors:** Precision Restoration & Sayville High School  
**Awards:** SPBLI Regional: Regional Champion, Highest Rookie Seed, Website Award, Rookie Inspiration  
**Fun Fact:** The Mechanical Animals team is filled with students and not just "mechanical animals." United as a team they won four different awards including winning their regional. Be sure to not get your fingers stuck in their gears on their award winning website

**Team:** 2549 **Name:** Millerbots  
**From:** Minneapolis, MN, USA  
**Sponsors:** NASA / The Cargill Foundation & MPLS-Washburn High School  
**Awards:** Wisconsin Regional: Regional Champion  
**Fun Fact:** Its Millerbots time! This regional champion team is small but still dedicated. "What goes on in Robotics stays in Robotics" is their team motto.

**Team:** 2564 **Name:** San Antonio  
**From:** San Juan, PR, USA  
**Sponsors:** PRIOR/Polytechnic University of P.R. & San Antonio High School  
**Awards:** Florida Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed  
**Fun Fact:** Be sure to say Hola to team 2564 all the way from San Juan, Puerto Rico. This team of dedicated students built their robot "Guaraguo" which translates into Red Tail Hawk

**Team:** 2609 **Name:** Our Lady of Lourdes  
**From:** Guelph, ON, Canada  
**Sponsors:** Research In Motion / Linamar & Our Lady of Lourdes High School  
**Awards:** Waterloo Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed  
**Fun Fact:** Cutting their teeth at the Kettering Kickoff, Our Lady of Lourdes came away with two awards and a high level of confidence, which carried into their regional where their robot "PacMan" excelled.

**Team:** 2629 **Name:** Halcones  
**From:** QUERETARO, OA, Mexico  
**Sponsors:** MAC, S.A. / CIATEQ & COLEGIO ALAMOS HIGH SCHOOL  
**Awards:** Silicon Valley Regional: Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** Hailing from Mexico, the Halcones span a wide age range and have competed in all three FIRST events. The FRC team wants to have an impact both on themselves and on the community, giving scholarships to high achieving students at a nearby public school.

## Galileo

**Team:** 2340 **Name:** Naza.r.e.X  
**From:** Rochester, NY, USA  
**Sponsors:** Xerox Corporation & Nazareth Academy High School  
**Awards:** Finger Lakes Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed  
**Fun Fact:** Naza.r.e.X is the only all-female rookie team at the Championships this year. To help Acquire Real Experience they hosted an FLL regional qualifier, attended the Rah-Cha-Cha Ruckus and the Rochester Rally.

**Team:** 2354 **Name:** Wheelie Bots  
**From:** Duncan, OK, USA  
**Sponsors:** The Toy Shop / Storage-R-Us / Wilco Machine and Fab / State of Oklahoma / Halliburton / NASA & Duncan High School  
**Awards:** Oklahoma City Regional: Regional Champion, Delphi Driving Tomorrow's Technology  
**Fun Fact:** Through "Channeling Creativity", Wheeliebot was built though this group of hard working students. The robot actually does wheelies! Watch out for them after winning the Oklahoma Regional. Be sure to drive by their pit as they bring in tomorrow's technology today

**Team:** 2423 **Name:** KwarQs  
**From:** Watertown, MA, USA  
**Sponsors:** NASA / BBN Technology / United Electric Controls & Watertown High School  
**Awards:** Boston Regional: Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** "Jack" — a 125-pound labor of love and notorious hell on wheels, with great speed and poking ability. They can't wait to show the robot off to the community after Atlanta. Come and shake his hands!

**Team:** 2454 **Name:** Rams  
**From:** Honolulu, HI, USA  
**Sponsors:** BAE SYSTEMS/NASA & Radford High School  
**Awards:** Hawaii Regional: Regional Champion  
**Fun Fact:** Setting some of the higher scores seen in Overdrive, the Rams also have a VEX team who is invited to the Bridge Battle Vex Robotics World Championship. Check out their website that shows off a brilliant business plan to help the team keep organized and running smoothly.

**Team:** 2474 **Name:** X-CEL  
**From:** Niles, MI, USA  
**Sponsors:** Mid-States Bolt & Screw Company / AACOA Extrusions Company / AEP-American Electric Power / Lake Michigan College & Niles Area Home School Organization & Galien High School & Homeschool HUB Home School  
**Awards:** Boilermaker Regional: Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** "For His Glory!". Team X-Cel is made up of a mix of public school and home school students. Keep an eye out on this rookie all-star team all the way from Niles, Michigan, as they "X-CEL" their way though the competition.

**Team:** 2520 **Name:** Robotics 9000  
**From:** Las Vegas, NV, USA  
**Sponsors:** Valley High School  
**Awards:** Las Vegas Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed  
**Fun Fact:** Robotics 9000 is boosting it though the competition with their robot Caribooster 9001. Mentored by team 987, Robotics 9000 received the Best Rookie Award from Team 2061 in Las Vegas.

**Team:** 2556 **Name:** ChoiceIT  
**From:** Niceville, FL, USA  
**Sponsors:** NASA / University of West Florida & CHOICE IT Institute Niceville High School  
**Awards:** Bayou Regional: Rookie All Star  
**Fun Fact:** Cutting the corners to maximize the 80 inch rule, ChoiceIT really knows how to "choose it" well with their robot's unique design. Look for this multi faceted robot on the Curie field.

**Team:** 2590 **Name:** NEMESIS  
**From:** Robbinsville, NJ, USA  
**Sponsors:** Washington Education Foundation / NASA / Wham Engineering Services & Robbinsville High School  
**Awards:** New Jersey Regional: Rookie All Star, Regional Finalist, Highest Rookie Seed  
**Fun Fact:** With an undefeated record in qualifying matches, 2590 proves to be a nemesis of balls on the overpass. With a consistent hybrid, they went all the way into the final matches after placing as the NJ highest rookie seed.

