

MOR TORQ

OVERDRIVE INTO ACTION

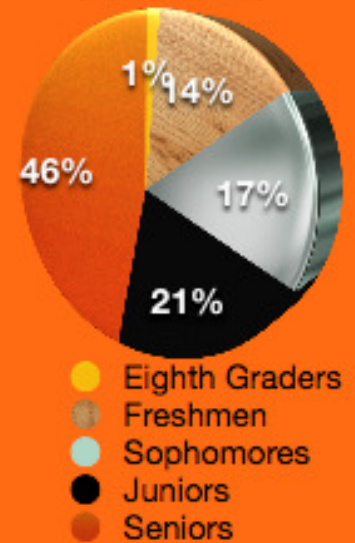
FRC 1515 - FTC 161



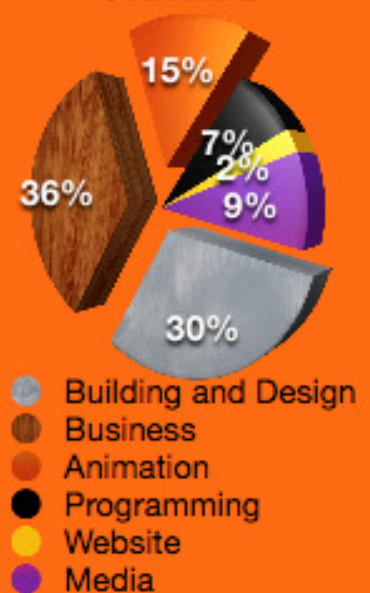
"It is not often that you can bring together a collection of students interested in Science, English, Drama, Art, Production, Graphics and public speaking and build a team who works hard, plays hard and wins awards. Beverly High Robotics brings out the best of Beverly Hills."
-Barry Brucker, Mayor of Beverly Hills

With the growth of its robotics program, MorTorq has shifted its focus from the development of its own team to that of the larger community. During its first two years, Team 1515 worked mainly to get the team off the ground. With the team functioning smoothly, MorTorq turned its attention to spreading the FIRST message to the outside world. It has worked with the entire community, from children to adults, to share in the excitement and joy of the FIRST experience. Now, in its fourth year, MorTorq has pushed into overdrive. With the help of its mentors and sponsors, Team 1515 has become bigger and better in all respects. With active community outreach, the team has been able to make a bigger impression on the lives of others. MorTorq's membership has increased and each member has worked longer and harder to achieve the common goal. MorTorq has truly gained more torque, pushing boundaries and rising to the challenge.

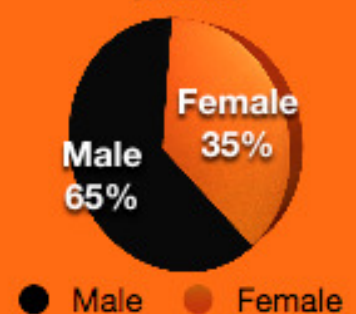
GRADE LEVELS



SUBTEAMS



GENDER



TEAM GROWTH

- Increased by 33 New Students for a total of 71 Members
- 2 New Teachers and 4 New Mentors
- Moved to larger, more centrally located facilities with computer lab, animation room, and machine shop
- Started new branch of the team, FIRST Tech Competition Team #161
- Expansion of 1 Robotics ROP (Regional Occupational Program) Class into 3 classes with 60+ students



FUNDRAISING

- Hosted Second Annual Gift-Wrap Fundraiser at Westfield Century City Mall
 - Mall Representatives contributed an additional \$500 in appreciation for the team's work
- MorTorq held its annual fundraiser dinner, which was hosted and catered by team members and their families
 - Over 100 community members witnessed the unveiling of this year's robot and animation video
 - Raised \$1,970 for the program
- California Pizza Kitchen Fundraiser
 - CPK Beverly Hills donated 20% of proceeds from all patrons with MorTorq flyers
- Mercedes-Benz of Beverly Hills Charitable Car Show
 - For third consecutive year, helped organize and run a charitable car show with sponsor Mercedes-Benz of Beverly Hills
 - Raises \$50,000 annually for local public schools
 - Exhibited robot in team booth to numerous show attendees including Governor Schwarzenegger
- Formed partnership with Muscular Dystrophy Assoc.
 - Team setup spare change drive which raised over \$1,200 for MDA
 - Setup MD support group on Facebook with over 7,100 members and has raised additional money
 - Appeared on Jerry Lewis MDA Telethon, broadcast on KCAL 9
- Participated in American Cancer Society Relay for Life



PRE-SEASON-TRAINING

- September
 - Attended 2007 Fall Classic
- October
 - LAPD Bomb Squad Workshop on principles of wiring and electronics lead by second-year mentor, Roy McKee
- November
 - Participated in Southern California Regional Robotics Forum Fall Workshop at CalState-Northridge, MorTorq had best attendance of all 30 teams
 - Two MorTorq team members taught an extremely popular Communication Skills Class at CSUN Workshop
- December
 - Attended joint workshop with partner school Hawthorne (Team 207) led by mentors from Walt Disney Imagineering



COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SPREADING THE WORD

- Annual presentations to BHUSD Board of Education
- Sponsored Middle School VEX Competition and Engineering Day
- Made demonstrations at Open Houses of all four local elementary schools
- Sponsored K-5 Robot Design contest and 6-8 Roller Coaster Design contest
 - Participants will work with MorTorq Members at "Future Engineer Day"
- Team members volunteer at local technology camp, teaching robotics classes
- Communicates with team members through e-mail updates and correspondence
- Releases frequent newsletters to team and community members detailing team progress and developments
- Weekly planning and educational meetings
- Award-winning website (www.bhrobotics.com) with information about FIRST and MorTorq including team videos, outreach, sponsors, and contact information
- Coverage in school newspaper, *Beverly Hills Weekly*, *Beverly Hills Courier*, and the *Los Angeles Times*.
- Produces TV Show, *MorTorq TV* which focuses on gracious professionalism, community outreach, and the fun of science and technology
 - Broadcast to audience of 35,000+ Beverly Hills residents
 - Available on YouTube, Google Video, & iTunes
 - Guests have included Dean Kamen, Woodie Flowers, & Dave Lavery



"FIRST is more than just about robots; its about people. FIRST has taught me how to be a leader, a role model, and a citizen. I have learned how to give back to my community and treat people with gracious professionalism. FIRST helps young minds find their passion, learn new trades, and develop their character. When I graduate high school, I plan to come back and help out the team."

**-Zach Kahn
Team Member, Building President**



Team Name: MorTorq

Sponsors: Walt Disney Imagineering
Mercedes-Benz of BH
BHHS ROP
Teen BHEF
Myra and Alain Gabbay

Robot Name: Orange Fever

Years in FIRST: 4

Regionals Attending: Los Angeles
Arizona

Honors and Awards

- 2007 Los Angeles FTC Championship Winning Alliance Award (Team 161)
- 2007 Los Angeles FTC Championship Connect Award (Team 161)
- 2007 Honored by Rotary Club of Beverly Hills
- 2007 Received Proclamation by the Mayor of Beverly Hills for its roll in encouraging science and technology in the community
- 2007 CA Imagery Award
- 2007 CA Autodesk Visualization Award
- 2007 CA Website Award
- 2007 CO DaimlerChrysler Team Spirit Award
- 2007 CO Regional Finalist
- 2006 CA KPC&B Entrepreneurship Award
- 2006 CA Autodesk Visualization Award
- 2006 NV KPC&B Entrepreneurship Award
- 2005 CO Rookie Inspiration Award
- 2005 CA Rookie All-Star

MorTorq continues to grow. The team is seeking a broader audience through multiple media outlets. The team has already sent an audition tape to the Ellen Degeneres Show and will be inviting local news organizations to the L.A. Regional Competition. MorTorq has also approached various hospitals with the intent of sharing the robot with sick children. This spring and summer the team will work on a prototype bomb squad robot for a local law enforcement agency in L.A. County. The team will be responsible for raising the necessary funds and will work with law enforcement to meet required specifications to perform specialized tasks. It is MorTorq's hope that these projects will inspire other teams to dedicate their free time to helping make their communities safer and better places to live while spreading the vision of FIRST.



"The impact of the FIRST program is tremendous. Students gain confidence and learn how to work together in order to complete all tasks. These skills are integral to future success in the work force and in life."

**-Eileen Kahn
Parent and Teacher**

Congratulations to everyone on the animation team for an excellent job on their film project. Very well done and a fun story. They should all be very proud of what they accomplished.

**-David Feiten
Animation Mentor**