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Local Manufacturers Helping Support STEM Education in Indiana

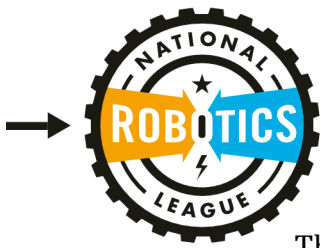
National Robotics League Lets Students See the Potential of STEM Skills

Indianapolis, IN: Local manufacturers have been working to advance Indiana's science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education through creative efforts that culminate in this year's National Robotics League (NRL) Championships. The NRL Championships, a robot combat competition created by the National Tooling and Machining Association to help introduce a new generation to the advanced skills and technology of today's manufacturing, will be held on the Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) campus on May 17-19, 2013.

The Indiana chapter of the NTMA (INTMA) has long pushed to elevate the critical role that STEM education plays in U.S. competitiveness and future economic prosperity. Through efforts like the NRL, in which student-designed robot gladiators collide in a ring over the course of a multi-day tournament, INTMA member companies are helping students to see first-hand the exciting, entrepreneurial possibilities of STEM skills put to work.

“The future of our industry, and frankly the economy as a whole, depends on our ability to raise a generation of technically savvy problem solvers who are eager to continue to push the innovation and technology envelope,” said Steve Wolsiffer, INTMA Chapter President. “ We've seen the NRL bring out exactly those qualities in the students who participate, and so we've put the resources of the INTMA behind this program to help ensure its continued growth.”





The NRL Championships are also supported by local and national sponsors including Ivy Tech, Indiana's largest public post-secondary educational institution; DEPCO, LLC; Boston Centerless; PartnerShip; and the National Tooling and Machining Foundation.

“We are so grateful to the INTMA and the many sponsors for their support of the National Robotics League,” said Maureen Carruthers, Program Director at the National Robotics League. “Indianapolis is a great place to hold our National Competition, as people here understand and appreciate the vital importance of the manufacturing sector for our community, our companies, and our economy as a whole. INTMA members have been our eyes, ears, and hands in Indianapolis and are committed to making this program a success. I can't imagine furthering this initiative without them and without the consistent support of our local and national sponsors.”

For more information about the National Robotics League event, including ways to get involved as a volunteer or sponsor, contact Maureen Carruthers at mcarruthers@ntma.org.

For media inquiries regarding the National Robotics League event contact Caitlin Andrews at (202) 828-7637 or caitlin.andrews@bgllp.com.

Additional information is also available on the NRL website at www.gonrl.org. For additional information on NTMA, visit www.ntma.org.

About NTMA: *NTMA's 1,400 member companies design and manufacture special tools, dies, jigs, fixtures, gages, special machines and precision-machined parts. Some firms specialize in experimental research and development work as well as rapid prototyping. Many NTMA members are privately owned small businesses, yet the industry generates sales in excess of \$40 billion a year. NTMA's mission is to help members of the U.S. precision custom manufacturing industry achieve business success in a global economy through advocacy, advice, networking, information, programs and services.*