

1 - Describe the impact of the FIRST program on team participants within the last 3 years. This can include but is not limited to percentages of those graduating high school, attending college, in STEM careers, and in FIRST programs as mentors/sponsors.

Our team members are highly impacted by the *FIRST* program. In the past 3 years, 83% of our alumni entered college, 2 of them abroad, and 92% out of those went to STEAM fields, while the regional average is 17%. Also, 56% kept involved in *FIRST* programs after graduation, acting as mentors & volunteers. 1156 boosts the career development of its members, being hired by sponsors or even creating their own STEAM startups, like UpSensor, which develops engineering solutions & information technology.

2 - Describe your community along with how your team addresses its unique opportunities and circumstances.

We live in Rio dos Sinos Valley, the metropolitan area of our state. Here there are plenty of tech hubs and industries, and we take advantage of it to boost *FIRST* since 2002. Being a veteran team, 1156 uses its STEAM knowledge and experience to introduce robotics in early education, something non-existent in the Brazilian school curriculum. We run yearly FTC scrimmage events and do volunteer work at the largest robotics event in our state, Festival Marista de Robótica.

3 - Describe the team's methods, with emphasis on the past 3 years, for spreading the FIRST message in ways that are effective, scalable, sustainable, and creative. How does your team measure results?

We spread the *FIRST* message by using our platform & events to create bonds with teams, & making it scalable with sponsors. e.g. the *FIRST Teams Community Brazil*, a movement that engages & publishes work from all over the country, fueling interactions with 368 BR teams. Results are measured by the sustainability of our actions, since 75% of the events we participated in have follow-up editions & 73% of the teams we started are still active. We've directly reached 102k people in the last 3 years.

4 - Please provide specific examples of how your team members act as role models within the FIRST community with emphasis on the past 3 years.

A role model is an example of resilience & inspiration. In 2021, Amanda started *Robotics Without Borders* to mentor teams overseas, offering 19 weekly mentoring sessions for 15 Nigerian FTC teams. Working with the BR Marist Network, João created a program using FLL as a learning tool for the school curriculum. It was implemented for 90 students in 2022 and already has the network's financial backing

to run until 2027, with the possibility to be expanded to all 96 Brazilian Marist schools.

5 - Describe your team's initiatives to Assist, Mentor, and/or Start other FIRST teams with emphasis on activities within the past 3 years.

Since 2020 we've assisted 338, mentored 36 & started 8 FIRST teams. During the pandemic, 1156 started the UnderBinars project, weekly Q&A seminars about varied aspects of FRC, applied with 15 Pre-Rookie teams. In 2023 we created the Under Development project, starting a deep mentoring process with 7 Brazilian FRC teams so far. Each team receives weekly support, through online meetings, from pairs of 1156 members and mentors to aid in their first time building a robot in an official season.

6 - Beyond starting teams, what initiatives have you done to help inspire young people to be science and technology leaders and innovators? What results have you seen from your efforts in the past 3 years?

1156 engages with people from different backgrounds. We apply a robotics curriculum for K-12 & keep students sharp through FLL tournaments in our school, which was the 1st in LATAM with a full FIRST progression. Through the *Robots for All* project, we donated 60 robotics kits & developed a full online curriculum for +200 quarantined students alongside 5 teams. Yearly, 1156 inspires +5.3k students & returns +900 hours of volunteer work by taking STEAM to charities, schools & events outside *FIRST*.

7 - Describe the partnerships you've created with other organizations (teams, sponsors, educational institutions, philanthropic entities, etc.) and what you have accomplished together with emphasis on the past 3 years.

By connecting with institutions around the globe, 1156 mutually increases both its own & the reach of others, like the NGO Coderina and Makers Place, which worked with us to mentor FIRST teams in Nigeria & Ghana respectively. Alongside our local PDP, SESI, we implemented FTC & FRC in Brazil, establishing events like the SESI FRC Off-Season, where we mentored half of the 28 teams present. By partnering with our city hall, we ran robotics classes in public schools to 12 kids for over 10 weeks.

8 - Describe your team's efforts in the past 3 years to promote equity, diversity, and inclusion within your team, FIRST, and your communities.

We aim to create environments in which women feel empowered & accepted. Thought up & created by all the girls on the team, the Girls In Control project has been bringing great results, increasing engagement & creating a healthier team

culture. After the 4th year of GIC, we've reached 50% of female representation in our leadership structure, and more women have joined the team during this period than in the 16 years prior. In addition, we've impacted 4k+ people through social media.

9 - Explain how you ensure your team and the initiatives you have created will continue to run effectively for the foreseeable future.

Planning the future means making conscious decisions in the present. To do so, we've created the Repio 2.0 project, offering STEAM courses for +90 students yearly, preparing the next generation of the team. Under Control has incorporated robotics as a curricular subject in middle school, ensuring students stay connected to STEAM throughout the years. We were consistently able to attend at least 2 official events, allowing our students to travel internationally with low cost in the past 6 years.

10 - Describe your team's innovative strategies to recruit, retain, and engage your sponsors within the past 3 years.

Forming long-lasting bonds is essential to our relationship with sponsors. 1156 hosts lab visits, assists with their projects & receives internship opportunities, with 9 graduates hired by them. Also, 3 of our sponsors were started by 1156 alumni, including stemOS, which we develop training material & mentor teams in Brazil with, and ODD, a design & data studio with whom we made courses on marketing & data supply. Currently, we have 15 sponsors helping us financially & through services.

11 - Highlight one area in which your team needs to improve and describe the steps actively being taken to make those improvements.

In recent years, 1156 has been struggling to keep its members motivated, due to the build season starting midway through school break & demanding tasks with tight deadlines. To combat this & keep members committed to their work, we have students sign a contract instituting a threshold for work hours, with those below it unable to represent the team, & asked whether or not they still want to partake in its activities. This way, only those satisfied with their work stay with the team.

12 - Describe your team's goals to fulfill the mission of FIRST and the progress you have made towards those goals.

Our main goal is to globalize *FIRST*, but before doing this, we have to sustainably establish *FIRST* in Brazil. One example of our work towards our goal was the establishment of FTC, which went from zero presence in the country in 2018, to national events involving ~37 teams & ~372 students each year. We ran 2 editions and supported the follow-ups, with a 5th edition in 2023. This allowed us to upscale

our efforts to FRC, with our work sparking a 156% increase in the number of teams since 2020.

13 - Briefly describe other matters of interest to the FIRST Judges, including items that may not fit into the above topics. The judges are interested in learning about aspects of your team that may be unique or particularly noteworthy.

1156 recently had its 20 year anniversary, and this also marks our greatest work yet: the implementation of FRC in Brazil. From pitching FTC & FRC to SESI representatives during the 2018 championship, to starting FTC in the country, supporting SESI's FRC off-season events, culminating in the 1st FRC regional in Brazil since 2008. Being able to compete in Brazil alongside teams from all of South America, some of which were started and mentored by us, is something we'll be eternally grateful for.

14 - (OPTIONAL) Please use this space to ask 1 question to your FIRST Impact Award Judges which will be answered after each event with feedback from the judges (250 characters maximum). Note: Questions asking what is required to win the award will not be answered.

Our team works very hard to make its documentation clear and concise; Does our writing and documentation clearly transmit all the actions we've done, and how they impact our community?