

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, 92% of our 25 alumni high school graduates entered college. From these alumni, 88% of which are taking STEM programs, while the regional average is 17%. Also, 84% remain involved in *FIRST* programs as mentors & volunteers, contributing to the ever-expanding Brazilian robotics community, spreading our mission. This exemplifies the team's strong commitment to engage students with *FIRST*.

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

Living in Porto Alegre's urbanized metropolitan area, we're surrounded by factories, companies, NGOs & schools. And yet, the lack of STEAM education & robotics in our local community stood out to us in contrast to what *FIRST* offers. We strive to change it through running competitions, classes & starting/mentoring teams, made feasible by partnering w/ those institutions. As Brazil lacked FRC 5 years ago, we embraced our country as the team's broader community, applying the same method to it.

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?

In our school, we partnered w/ BR Marist Network to bring FLL into the school curriculum. The project connects yearly +90 students to the *FIRST* message, and aims to grow across the network. To unite our broader community, we lead the *FIRST* Teams Community Brazil, a platform where teams are able to publish their work & interact w/ other teams, giving visibility to ~400 BR teams. We measure results by the sustainability of our actions, taking into account team renewal & community adherence.

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.

In 2023 & 2024, Bruno teamed up with 4400 & 1868 to co-host the FRC Warm Up. The event consists of 15+ hours of webinars with notable panelists sharing knowledge about FRC. Also, as 264 teams & 12 countries were present, the hosts, including us, were translators, increasing accessibility. Beyond online events, 1156 runs local events. This year, in the 3rd edition of Sinos Valley Challenge, 10 FTC

teams competed in our Scrimmage while 2 FRC teams used our lab during their build season.

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

Aspiring to help teams with our experience, we created the Underbinars project, weekly Q&A seminars about FRC varied aspects through which 15 FRC teams were mentored. With the Under Development project, we provided personalized mentoring to 10 Brazilian FRC rookie teams since 2023. Each team receives weekly support based on specific needs in their 1st build season. Adding to our total 33 teams mentored in 3 years, we assisted 504+ teams through video calls and in-competitions help.

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?

We applied a robotics curriculum for K-12 students, keeping students engaged with FLL&FTC events at our school, which was the 1st in LATAM to offer full FIRST progression, keeping 441 students involved w/ FIRST programs in the past 3y. With the Robots for All project, we donated 60 robotics kits & developed a wide online curriculum for 200+ quarantine students, w/ 5 teams. Annually, 1156 inspires 6.4k+ students & contributes 2.3k+ hours of volunteer work bringing STEAM to different backgrounds.

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.

In a partnership with NGOs Coderina & Makers Place, we mentored 17 FIRST teams in Nigeria & Ghana with the Robotics Without Borders project. Yearly, we work w/ Stella in STEAM projects used both in their company & in our lab, besides being a learning tool for new students. Given the opportunity to work w/ our city hall, we applied robotics classes to kids in an underprivileged school. At Centro Medianeira, an education center for socially vulnerable youth, we supplied 20+ hours of volunteering.

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 1156's girls, the Girls In Control project brings great results, increasing engagement & creating a healthier team culture. In the 5th year of GIC,

2/3 of students who joined 1156 in 2023 were girls. Also, 75% of FTC & FRC lead mentors are women, reinforcing their presence in all areas. We also wrote 2 books about women in STEAM and took to Centro Medianeira as a volunteer work, inspiring +300 kids.

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

We believe that sustainability consists of 2 pillars: human & financial resources. To engage students, 1156 created the Repio 2.0 project, offering STEAM courses for 200+ students yearly. It incorporated robotics into our middle school curriculum, ensuring connection w/ STEAM throughout the years. Furthermore, we attend at least 2 official events, allowing students to travel internationally w/ low cost in the past 7 years due to how effective the relationships w/ our sponsors & fundraisers are.

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 relation with sponsors. We host lab visits, assist with their projects & receive internship opportunities, with 12 graduates hired by them. Also, 3 of our sponsors were started by our alumni, including stemOS & ODD, a design & data studio who provided us marketing & data supply courses. With 19 sponsors, we show our gratitude through the Sponsor Showcase & Appreciation Night, where we host dinner for sponsors to highlight their impact on the team.

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

We had to upgrade our purchasing power in terms of robot resources, we had the technical skills, we just lacked the materials. To overcome that, our students and mentors worked to start the SwerveClub, a business strategy uniting both technical & non-technical areas of the team to crowdfund & gather sponsors specifically to acquire swerve modules. It elevated our skillset significantly & introduced a new method that we'll improve & utilize to acquire additional resources, such as Kraken Motors.

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

One of our goals is to build the leaders of tomorrow, doing so, we make STEAM accessible & intuitive for the youth. Knowing how *FIRST* can multiply that access, we

started to establish FTC in Brazil, which went from 0 presence in 2018 to yearly national events & 60+ teams actively competing now. Such a thing doesn't come without effort, involving training mentors & judges, running events, a lot of volunteering & especially, sharing knowledge & experience about robotics education & competitions.

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.

Under Control's mission is to inspire generations through STEAM, building leaders for the future, promoting values of professionalism, humanity & excellence. We use every possible resource to honor it, be it our 20+ years of experience & knowledge, our own workspace & material, or the many contacts & supporters we've acquired throughout the years. Between introducing kids to STEAM, giving our members job opportunities, & bringing all FIRST categories to Brazil, our impact has already been heard.

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. Note: Questions asking what is required to win the award will not be answered. (250) We've presented our mission, and several actions we've done with our community throughout the years in order to accomplish it. Based on these factors, what sort of project would you consider an appropriate next step for our outreach work?