The Partnership
For more than 25 years, Motorola Solutions and FIRST™ (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) have worked together to introduce students to opportunities in engineering and technology careers. Through hands-on experiences like FIRST Robotics competitions, students make the connection between the skills they use to build robots and the math and science concepts they learn in the classroom. Inspiring this connection helps cultivate the next generation of innovators who will be vital for the technology industry.

The Competition
In 2017, more than 85,000 high school students representing approximately 3,400 teams will gather to compete across four levels (FLLJr, FLL, FTC and FRC) to create autonomous robots. At the elementary school level (FLL), students create autonomous robots using LEGO MINDSTORMS technologies around a current engineering or community issue. At the highest level (FRC), teams of high school students are given six weeks to design and build an autonomous robot that can perform competitive functions. This year, approximately 800 teams will qualify to go to one of two FIRST Championships at the end of April, 2017 held in St. Louis, Missouri and Houston, Texas.

The Impact
Research has shown that FIRST participants are more than twice as likely to pursue a career in science and technology, nearly four times as likely to expect to pursue a career specifically in engineering and more than twice as likely to volunteer in their communities when compared to a group of students with similar backgrounds who did not participate in FIRST.

Employee Involvement
Several FIRST Robotics alumni are now engineers at Motorola Solutions and serve as FIRST team mentors. This year, more than 60 Motorola Solutions volunteers will assist as mentors, coaches, and judges with the competition, exemplifying the company’s dedication to educating and inspiring our next generation of innovators in moments that matter.

Expanding Access
Motorola Solutions Foundation is committed to the next generation—to engage imagination and encourage innovation in moments that matter. Motorola Solutions Foundation is a Strategic Partner of FIRST. In addition to our domestic support of FIRST programming, we sponsor teams and regional competitions in Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Malaysia, Mexico, Poland, Slovakia, Switzerland and the United States.

By the Numbers
Motorola Solutions has contributed nearly $20.6 million and countless volunteer hours to FIRST since its inception in 1989.

Many Motorola Solutions employees were participants in FIRST programs, and now volunteer as FIRST mentors.

This Season…
The Motorola Solutions Foundation has provided over $655,000 in support to FIRST Robotics programs, sponsoring more than 1,100 teams at the elementary, middle and high school levels globally.

Nearly 60 Motorola Solutions volunteers have helped lead teams, organize regional events, and judge robotics competitions.

More than 10,000 students are participants on Motorola Solutions Foundation-sponsored teams this season.

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