LUNABOTICS
MINING COMPETITION
May 27-28, 2010
Astronaut Hall of Fame
Kennedy Engineering Academy 67, July 20, 2010
Rob Mueller, Chief, NASA KSC, Surface Systems Office, NE-S
Gloria Murphy, NASA KSC, Education Project Manager, XA-D
What is a Lunabot?

- Robot Controlled Remotely or Autonomously
- Visual and Auditory Isolation from Operator
- Excavates Black Point 1 (BP-1) Aggregate
- Weight Limit - 80 kg
- Dimension Limits - 1.5m width x .75m length x 2m height
- Designed, Built and Tested by University Student Teams
Background/History

The Competition is linked to a Senior Design Class and Systems Engineering Curriculum

ESMD Senior Design Project
# KSC1-05-SD
Lunar Regolith Excavation O2 Prod/Outpost Emplace
posted in 2007 on the ESMD Space Grant Education Project website:
http://education.ksc.nasa.gov/esmdspacegrant/

Lunar Regolith Excavator
Senior Design Course
incorporating NASA Systems Engineering Process
Curriculum developed and pilot tested by Auburn University during 2008-09 and posted at:
http://education.ksc.nasa.gov/esmdspacegrant/LunarRegolithExcavator.htm

Lunar Regolith Excavator
Senior Design Course
Faculty Workshop
Held at KSC on May 27, 2009 with 43 faculty from around the country participating of which 37% were from minority serving institutions.
Competition Categories

- On-site Mining
  - 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place for most lunar simulant deposited in collector within 15 minutes
  - Minimum of 10 kg required to place
- Systems Engineering Paper (mandatory)
- Outreach Project (mandatory)
- Slide Presentation (optional)
- Team Spirit (optional)
Benefits

- Prepare Students for Future Workforce
- Soil Containment Structure for New Technologies Development (ISRU)
- New Concepts for Excavation Technologies
- Community Awareness of Future KSC Activities
- Outreach to local middle schools, FIRST Robotics, Girl Scouts and Boys & Girls Club
Partnerships

- Technical Expertise - KSC Engineering
- Project Management - KSC Education
- Funding - ESMD Education
- Host – Delaware North
- Collaboration with Exploration Technology Development Program (ETDP)
- Involvement - JPL, JSC, LaRC, MSFC
Sponsors

- Caterpillar, inc
- Newmont Mining Company
- Honeybee Robotics Spacecraft Mechanisms Corporation
- Reynolds, Smith & Hills (RS&H) Consulting Engineers
- AIAA Space Resources Technical Committee (TC)
- ASCE Regolith Operations, Mobility & Robotics TC

Thank you to our sponsors!
Competitors

- Akron, Univ. of
- Alabama, Univ. of
- Arkansas, Univ. of
- Auburn Univ. / Tuskegee Univ.
- Bridgeport, Connecticut, Univ. of
- Carnegie Mellon Univ. / Hampton
- Colorado School of Mines
- Embry Riddle Aeronautical Univ. FL
- Florida Institute of Technology
- Florida State Univ. / Florida A&M
- Iowa State University

- John Brown University
- Milwaukee School of Engineering, WI
- Montana State University
- North Carolina-Charlotte, Univ. of
- North Dakota School of Eng. & Mines
- Prairie View A & M Univ.
- South Dakota School of Mines & Tech
- Southern Indiana, Univ. of
- Temple University, PA
- Virginia Tech
- Western Kentucky University

Over 250 students participated, gained valuable skills and were inspired!
Black Point 1 (BP-1)
Discovered during 2009 Desert RATS in Flagstaff, AZ
Joe Kosmo Award for Excellence

Grand prize trip to NASA Desert RATS awarded to team with highest accumulative score

Trophy designed and built by Pre-Engineering students from Rocklin High School, California
2010 Competition Winners

- In-Situ Mining: Montana State University
- Systems Engineering Paper: Auburn U.
- Outreach Project: Embry-Riddle AU Daytona
- Slide Presentation: Western Kentucky U
- Team Spirit: Univ. of Southern Indiana

- Joe Kosmo Award: Montana State University
Lunabotics 2011

- KSC will host NASA Lunabotics 2011
- Possible International Participation at Satellite Lunarenas (S. Korea, Netherlands)
- Rules will not change
- We are already planning for 2011!
- You are invited to participate
Lunabotics Mining Competition POCs

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Competition Website: www.nasa.gov/lunabotics
Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/Lunabotics