

Edina Robotics - Website

The following pages are part of the redesigning of [Team 1816's website](#). I worked with mentors at [Larsen Design](#) and I was guided through the process of re-designing a website from scratch. The website was judged Best Website at the 2010 and 2009 FIRST Minnesota North Star Regional, Best Website at the 2009 FIRST Wisconsin Regional, and earned Excellence ratings at the 2010 and 2009 Championships.

Edina Robotics - Information Architecture page 1

Reorganizing how information is presented on the site. Includes the original site map along with the new site's structure.

(In outline form) - Criteria: <http://www.usfirst.org/uploadedFiles/WEBSITE%20AWARD%20Criteria.pdf>

To meet the criteria better, the site should have a place specifically dedicated to helping new teams, pointing them in the right direction. Overall, it meets the criteria pretty well.

- **Home** - Homepage has flash animation of mission statement. Loads quickly. Short intro to the site. Other areas readily accessible. Standard 12pt font for readability. Exclusively for 1 FIRST team. FIRST logo on homepage. Not explicit link, but featured on every page. Uses newest logo. Contains original content. Stays clearly with green color scheme. Homepage contains news about team, not just stuff for members. It has really no specific stuff for members.
- **News** - Has RSS feed. (Does not validate, if I remember right). Archives back to 2006. External links are sometimes marked. All open in new window, according to criteria.
- **Outreach** - About the activities of our team. A list in chronological order. Might need more organization, along with clearer definition of outreach.
- **FIRST** - Includes mission of FIRST, list of MN teams and links to Team websites, and additional facts at the bottom, which should move up to the top.
 - **Minnesota Regional** - Info about MN Regional. Updated for 2009 season. Contains a few captioned pictures and a lot of text.
 - **Minnesota Splash** - Out of date page. Has large link to MN Splash 2008 info. Can be removed. Maybe put stuff like it in a new section? An Event Info section?
 - **President's Circle** - Somewhat of an orphaned page. Needs updating for 2008 PC and sidebar links to rest of FIRST section.
- **FRC** - Description of FRC. No photos except banner. Head of FRC section and is out of date (Missing 2009 sidebar link)
 - **Current Season** - HUGE article on 2009 season activities. Fulfills the "updated information on current season" requirement. All pages in this section link to each other and back to the "About FIRST" page.
 - **Game** - Has description of current game with logo. Links to game animation.
 - **Robot** - Info on robot. Single picture.
 - **Members** - Goes out of section to new page with list of current members with pictures and bios.
 - **Sponsors** - Page listing and recognizing sponsors. Sponsors do not get logos on home page or at footer. Might consider that for new website to more overtly thank mentors.
 - **Awards** - List of 2009 awards and team photo.
 - **2008 Season** - Same as "Current season page" except divided into sections and has more pictures.
 - **Game** - Description of game. No photos, videos or links.
 - **Robot** - Long description of robot. 1 photo.
 - **Members** - Same as 2009 members except this time with 2008 members listed.
 - **Sponsors** - page recognizing specific 2008 Season sponsors. Not as nicely laid out as 2009 page. Let's be consistent on new site.
 - **Awards** - Same style as 2009 page.
 - **2007 Season** - Not as much detail about season. Still lots of text and 1 photo.
 - **Game** - Description of game with multiple photos and a flash applet that simulates scoring.
 - **Robot** - Very brief info about robot. 1 photo.

- **Members** - Same as other member pages
 - **Sponsors** - Same as 2008 sponsors page.
 - **Awards** - Same style as other awards pages.
- **2006 Season** - Even less text compared to 2007. 1 photo. Outlines 2006 accomplishments.
 - **Game** - Description and image of field. Has a link to official description and a link that should be there but isn't?
 - **Robot** - About robot. Some info. 1 photo.
 - **Members** - Same deal as other member pages.
 - **Sponsors** - Listing of sponsor names. Should find logos.
 - **Awards** - Same style as other awards pages.
- **About Us** - Lays out mission of team.
 - **Team Organization** - Explains organization of team. Might want to turn this into advice for rookies about organization strategies.
 - **Sponsors** - Identical to current season sponsors page.
 - **Members** - Identical to current season members page. Those mentioned pages are actually the same page.
 - **Team History** - Tells the story of the team.
 - **Awards** - Listing of all awards by year.
 - **Contact** - Simple page that lists email in image form to deter spammers.
- **Media** - Info about our media efforts.
 - **Photos** - Huge amount of photo galleries. Might want to present them in a more dynamic way.
 - **Videos** - List of videos. Would be great if we could divide by year and clicking on a year tab brings up a list of the videos from that year.
- **Resources** - A kind of catch all category. Includes forum, blog, calendar. Resources mainly for team. FIRST guidelines want clear identification of rookie team resources.
 - **Forum** - Place for intrateam communication and place for other teams to get help.
 - **Parent Resources** - Place for parents incase they miss an email.
 - **Calendar** - Mainly for team members. Lists team events.
 - **Blog** - A more fun way to read about news. In new site I want a little box that draws more attention to the blog.
 - **Links** - A bit out of date place that lists resources for other teams. Should really make a "Rookie Resources" section or something.
 - **Downloads** - Place for team downloads mostly.
 - **2007 Website** - Archive of old website.

Proposed Site Map

- Home Page - Will have something specific to each audience (sponsors, other teams, team members, Edina community).
- News
 - News Releases - Normal news stories. Stories sorted by date (most recent first). Archives included.
 - Blog - Link to blog
 - In The News - Media coverage of our team.

- Press - A press page. Has contact info, some photos, some links to more photos and PR info.
- About Us
 - Who We Are - Consists of the current "About Us" page with more mention of our new outreach efforts.
 - Sponsors - Current Sponsor list. Sponsors are tiered. Also has information on how to become a sponsor.
 - Members and Mentors - Current Members page. Combine with current organization page. List members by role and have brief description of each subteam.
 - History - Season listing. Huge change coming to this section. Will list each season along with a smaller summary of each season. The summary will be a combination of what's on the current history page and what's on the season pages along with a brief game description. Under the summary, links to more detailed info about the robot, members, sponsors, game and awards will be placed.
 - Awards - Complete listing of awards won.
 - Robots - All about our robots. New Page. Doesn't have to be too detailed.
 - Contact Us - Contact information.
- FIRST - This page is the same as the *FIRST* page in the current site, but updated for this current season. Has no subsections.
- Activities - New name for the FRC section. This also includes outreach activities.
 - Competition - New page devoted to the current season. Has information about the current season including the game, robot, and awards (after each competition). Also has information about the competitions in general (like what it's like to be at one and what you do there. Mainly for people interested in the program).
 - Outreach - Info and news about our outreach activities. Divided into 3 categories. Outreach stories can be filtered by category. Includes description of outreach and why we do it.
- Resources - Not the same as the old resources section, this one contains information for other teams.
 - Getting Started - Resources for rookie teams and mentors.
 - General Resources - Resources for experienced teams and mentors.
 - President's Circle - Finally the right place for this. A page about the President's Circle and the resources available through this.
 - Links - A massive revision of the current links page, adding relevant links
- Media
 - Photos - Current photo gallery.
 - Videos - All videos. Would be nice to have some Javascript effect that if you click some sort of year tab it fades to a list of that season's videos.
- Member Resources - Not sure about the title for this. Might rename to "For Members"
 - Parent Resources - Similar to the current Parent Resources page. Actually identical to the current page.
 - Calendar - Same as current calendar, except that it'll be integrated into the system.
 - Forum - Same as current forum, except integrated into Drupal.
 - Downloads - Team downloads. Forms, etc.



1816 Home

OUTREACH

OUTREACH HELPS FURTHER THE FIRST MISSION OF CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN CAREERS IN TECHNOLOGY, SCIENCE, MATH, AND ENGINEERING.

Competition
Outreach



About the Team Current Season Outreach Resources for Teams Photos and Videos What is FIRST?



News

Green Machine Demonstrates FIRST Lunacy at Valleyfair
By Kirsten M. June 6, 2009

Minnesota FIRST Robotics teams from Prior Lake and Edina set up shop at Valleyfair the last Saturday of May, demonstrating the FIRST Robotics games of the last two seasons. Team 1816-The Green Machine took turns with Team 2169-King TeC, demonstrating both the 2009 "Lunacy" and 2008 "Overdrive" games. Both teams also took turns answering questions from park visitors about the capabilities of their robots and about FIRST. Read Full Story...



Green Tip of the Week

If available, use revolving doors rather than the usual open-close or sliding doors. Not only are revolving doors oddly fun to play with, but in the winter they help keep warm air inside, and in the summer help keep in cool air, while regular doors aren't nearly as efficient. This helps save money and energy on heating and cooling.

From the Blog

Green-blooded hobgoblin...
Posted by Anna June 26, 2009
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1816 Home > News

NEWS

FOLLOW THE ACTIVITIES OF THE GREEN MACHINE



News Archive

- 2009
- 2008
- 2007
- 2006

Recent News

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Team 1816-The Green Machine will next appear at the Minnesota State Fair. FIRST teams from around Minnesota will run a daily competition at the Education Building.

Interested in learning more about FIRST Robotics? Visit www.usfirst.org or contact Ken Rosen, kr71@aol.com. For FIRST Tech Challenge: [Joe Passofaro, mnftc@prodigy.net](mailto:Joe.Passofaro@prodigy.net), or for FIRST Lego League, [Holly Mezera, info@hightechkids.org](mailto:Holly.Mezera@hightechkids.org).

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[Can place quotes from articles here for those who don't want to read the whole thing]

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Edina Robotics - Home Page Version 1
My initial design for the new Edina Robotics website's home page.

Edina Robotics - Sub Page Version 1
My initial design for all other pages on the new Edina Robotics website.

THE GREEN MACHINE

HOME NEWS ABOUT US FIRST ACTIVITIES RESOURCES MEDIA TEAM RESOURCES

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THE GREEN MACHINE

EDINA ROBOTICS TEAM 1816

EYES ON THE FUTURE

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Edina Robotics - Home Page Version 2
From feedback given by Reid Durbin at Larsen Design, more green was added to the design, along with a space for a search box.

THE GREEN MACHINE

HOME NEWS ABOUT US FIRST ACTIVITIES RESOURCES MEDIA TEAM RESOURCES

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Edina Robotics - Sub Page Version 2
Following the home page, more green was added to this page.



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EDINA ROBOTICS TEAM 1816

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Edina Robotics - Home Page Version 3
Minor tweaks in this version. More space between banners on the right was added and the navigation bar's spacing was adjusted.



THE GREEN MACHINE

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Edina Robotics - Sub Page Version 3
Navigation bar spacing was the only thing adjusted in this version.

Edina Robotics - Home Page Final
 Final design of the home page. On advice from Bud Snead at Larsen Desgin, much more white space was added to the text on the page, the banner buttons shrunk and more spacing between banners on the rigtg was added.

Edina Robotics - Sub Page Final
 More white space was added between the text and other elements on the page.