

Section
5

THE AWARDS

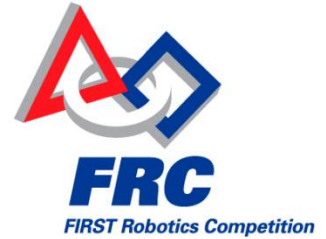


TABLE OF CONTENTS

5 THE AWARDS	3
5.1 <i>FIRST</i> ROBOTICS COMPETITION AWARDS.....	3
5.2 AWARDS AT A GLANCE.....	3
5.3 THE AUTODESK DESIGN COMPETITION	5
5.3.1 AUTODESK INVENTOR AWARD (Championship Only)	5
5.3.2 THE AUTODESK VISUALIZATION AWARD.....	6
5.4 CHAIRMAN’S AWARD.....	6
5.4.1 Overview	6
5.4.2 First-Year (Rookie) and NASA Grant Teams:.....	7
5.4.3 Submission Information.....	7
5.4.4 The Allaire Medal - Leadership Exemplified	8
5.5 CHAMPION (CHAMPIONSHIP ONLY)	8
5.6 CHAMPIONSHIP FINALIST (CHAMPIONSHIP ONLY)	8
5.7 CHRYSLER TEAM SPIRIT AWARD	8
5.8 DELPHI “DRIVING TOMORROW’S TECHNOLOGY™” AWARD	8
5.9 DIVISION FINALIST (CHAMPIONSHIP ONLY).....	8
5.10 DIVISION CHAMPION (CHAMPIONSHIP ONLY).....	8
5.11 ENGINEERING INSPIRATION AWARD.....	8
5.12 THE FOUNDER’S AWARD (CHAMPIONSHIP ONLY)	9
5.13 GENERAL MOTORS INDUSTRIAL DESIGN AWARD	9
5.14 HIGHEST ROOKIE SEED AWARD	9

5.15 IMAGERY AWARD	9
5.16 JOHNSON & JOHNSON - GRACIOUS PROFESSIONALISM AWARD	9
5.17 JUDGES' AWARD	9
5.18 KLEINER PERKINS CAUFIELD & BYERS ENTREPRENEURSHIP AWARD	9
5.18.1 Business Plan Submission	10
5.19 MOTOROLA QUALITY AWARD	10
5.20 REGIONAL FINALIST (REGIONAL ONLY)	10
5.21 REGIONAL WINNER (REGIONAL ONLY)	10
5.22 ROCKWELL AUTOMATION INNOVATION IN CONTROL AWARD	10
5.23 ROOKIE ALL-STAR AWARD	10
5.24 ROOKIE INSPIRATION AWARD	10
5.25 UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AWARD.....	10
5.26 XEROX CREATIVITY AWARD	10
5.27 WEBSITE AWARD	10
5.27.1 Submission and Deadline Information.....	11
5.28 WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD	11
5.28.1 Spirit of the Award	11
5.28.2 Submission Deadline.....	11
5.28.3 Prior Year Regional WFFA Winner Re-submission	12
5.29 FIRSTAWARDS.ORG SITE	12
5.29.1 Formatting	12
5.29.2 Accounts	12
5.29.3 Verification of Submission.....	12

5 THE AWARDS

5.1 FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITION AWARDS

This chapter contains descriptions of the *FIRST* Robotics Competition Awards as well as any required submission criteria. Note an asterisk designates a new or “changed” award in the listing. Unless otherwise noted all awards are given at both the Regional and District events and the *FIRST* Championship.

FIRST will hold an Awards Celebration at each Regional, District and at the Championship presenting these awards.

5.2 AWARDS AT A GLANCE

Award	Description	Selected By	RE G	DIV	CMP
Autodesk Visualization	This award honors excellence in student animation.	Reg: Students CMP: Autodesk	X		X
Autodesk Inventor	This award honors excellence in student mechanical design, coordination, and presentation.	Autodesk			X
Chairman's	The Chairman's Award represents the spirit of <i>FIRST</i> . It honors the team that, in the judges' estimation, best represents a model for other teams to emulate, and which embodies the goals and purpose of <i>FIRST</i> . It remains <i>FIRST</i> 's most prestigious award.	Chairman's Judge Panel (application and interview process)	X		X
Champion	This award celebrates the alliance that wins the final match of the Championship Playoffs	Performance Based			X
Championship Finalist	This award celebrates the alliance that makes it to the final match of the Championship Playoffs	Performance Based			X
Chrysler Team Spirit	This award celebrates extraordinary enthusiasm and spirit through exceptional partnership and teamwork.	Judges	X		X
Delphi "Driving Tomorrow's Technology"	This award celebrates an elegant and advantageous machine feature. This award recognizes any aspect of engineering elegance including, but not limited to: design, wiring methods, material selection, programming techniques, and unique machine attributes. The criteria for this award are based on the team's ability to concisely describe verbally, as well as demonstrate, this chosen machine feature.	Judges	X		X
Division Champion	This award celebrates the alliance that wins the final match in their division at the Championship.	Performance Based		X	
Division Finalist	This award celebrates the alliance that makes it to the final match in its division at the Championship.	Performance Based		X	

Engineering Inspiration	This award celebrates a team's outstanding success in advancing respect and appreciation for engineering and engineers, both within their school as well as their community. Criteria include: the extent and inventiveness of the team's efforts to recruit students to engineering, the extent and effectiveness of the team's community outreach efforts, and the measurable success of those efforts.	Judges	X		X
Founders Award	Each year <i>FIRST</i> presents this award to honor an organization or individual that has contributed significantly to the growth of <i>FIRST</i> .	Not a Team Award			X
General Motors Industrial Design	This award celebrates form and function in an efficiently designed machine that effectively achieves the game challenge.	Judges	X		X
Highest Rookie Seed	This award celebrates the highest-seeded rookie team at the conclusion of the qualifying rounds.	Performance Based	X	X	
Imagery	This award celebrates attractiveness in engineering and outstanding visual aesthetic integration from the machine to team appearance.	Judges	X		X
Johnson & Johnson Gracious Professionalism	This award celebrates outstanding sportsmanship and continuous gracious professionalism in the heat of competition, both on and off the playing field.	Judges	X		X
Judges Award	During the course of the competition, the judging panel may encounter a team whose unique efforts, performance, or dynamics merit recognition.	Judges	X		X
Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers Entrepreneurship	This award celebrates the entrepreneurial spirit. This award recognizes a team, which since its inception has developed the framework for a comprehensive business plan in order to scope, manage, and obtain team objectives. This team displays entrepreneurial enthusiasm and the vital business skills for a self-sustaining program.	Judges (formal business plan required)	X		X
Motorola Quality	This award celebrates machine robustness in concept and fabrication.	Judges	X		X
Regional/District Finalist	This award celebrates the alliance that makes it to the final match of the competition.	Performance Based	X		
Regional/District Winner	This award celebrates the alliance that wins the final match of the competition.	Performance Based	X		
Rockwell Automation Innovation in Control	This award celebrates an innovative control system or application of control components to provide unique machine functions.	Judges	X		X

Rookie All Star	This award celebrates the rookie team exemplifying a young but strong partnership effort, as well as implementing the mission of <i>FIRST</i> to inspire students to learn more about science and technology.	Judges	X		X
Rookie Inspiration	This award celebrates a rookie team's outstanding success in advancing respect and appreciation for engineering and engineers both within their school, as well as in their community.	Judges	X		X
Underwriters Laboratories Industrial Safety	This award celebrates the team that progresses beyond safety fundamentals by using innovative ways to eliminate or protect against hazards. The winning team consistently demonstrates excellence in industrial safety performance that shines throughout the competition from uncrating to re-pack.	Safety Advisors	X		X
Website	The Website Award recognizes excellence in student-designed, built, and managed <i>FIRST</i> team websites.	Website Evaluators (prior to the event)	X		X
Woodie Flowers	The Woodie Flowers Award celebrates effective communication in the art and science of engineering and design. Dr. William Murphy founded this prestigious award in 1996 to recognize mentors who lead, inspire, and empower using excellent communication skills.	Panel of prior WFA Winners	X		X
Xerox Creativity	This award celebrates creative design, use of a component, or a creative or unique strategy of play.	Judges	X		X

5.3 THE AUTODESK DESIGN COMPETITION

5.3.1 AUTODESK INVENTOR AWARD (Championship Only)

5.3.1.1 Purpose of Award:

This award honors excellence in student mechanical design, coordination, and presentation.

5.3.1.2 Award Overview

Autodesk wants to honor those young inventors and engineers that make the *FIRST* Robotics Competition possible! Once again we are excited to offer the Autodesk Inventor Award. With Autodesk Inventor we have provided the tool that allows you to design without limits. Now we want to see what you do with this tool. We know that before your team can start building your robot you need to design it. We want to see the exciting journey of how your designs evolved into a real-life robot! Autodesk Inventor allows you to quickly and easily design and modify your robot using the same iterative techniques employed by professional engineers.

From concept through completion, the Autodesk Inventor Award was created to help experience your ideas before they're real.

Additional information about this award, along with the specific award criteria, judging process and deadlines will be posted on the Autodesk website:

www.autodesk.com/firstbase

5.3.2 THE AUTODESK VISUALIZATION AWARD

5.3.2.1 Purpose of Award

This award honors excellence in student animation.

5.3.2.2 Award Overview

All *FIRST* Robotics Competition teams are invited to create a submission for the Autodesk Visualization Award (AVA) using Autodesk 3ds Max® software. Additional information about this award, along with the specific award criteria, judging process and deadlines will be posted on the Autodesk website: www.autodesk.com/firstbase

At the regional level the Autodesk Visualization Award will be peer judged at each event by one student animator from each team competing for the AVA at that event. At the Championship level the AVA submissions will be professionally judged and then five finalists will be advanced for final peer voting.

Note: *FIRST* will continue to showcase Autodesk Visualization animations at each regional event. We are committed to honoring the student teams who undertake this challenge by showing the animations created by each team participating at the Regional event. Autodesk will continue to support this effort by providing a compilation DVD for each Regional event.

5.4 CHAIRMAN'S AWARD

The *FIRST* Robotics Competition is about much more than the mechanics of building a robot or winning a competitive event. It is about the partnership among people who are part of the *FIRST* community and the impact on those who participate in *FIRST* programs with a united goal of achieving *FIRST*'s mission. *FIRST*'s mission is to change the way young people regard science and technology and to inspiring an appreciation for the real-life rewards and career opportunities in these fields.

The concept of the Chairman's Award includes Regional Chairman's Awards, which enable *FIRST* to recognize more teams for their exemplary efforts in spreading the *FIRST* message, as well as their talents in organizing materials for their presentations.

The winning entries of the Regional Chairman's Awards will travel to the Championship for the continuing process of consideration for the most prestigious 2009 Chairman's Award.

5.4.1 Overview

The Chairman's Award was created to keep the central focus of the *FIRST* Robotics Competition as our ultimate goal for transforming the culture in ways that will inspire greater levels of respect and honor for science and technology, as well as encourage more of today's youth to become scientists, engineers, and technologists

The Chairman's Award represents the spirit of *FIRST*. It honors the team that, in the judges' estimation, best represents a model for other teams to emulate, and which embodies the goals and purpose of *FIRST*. It remains *FIRST*'s most prestigious award.

FIRST will present a Regional Chairman's Award at each regional competition and three at the Michigan State Championship in 2009. Only the winners of the Regional Chairman's Award will be eligible to compete for the Chairman's Award presented at the *FIRST* Championship.

Hall of Fame members, a/k/a teams that have already won the Chairman's Award are ineligible to compete for the Regional Chairman's Award.

5.4.2 First-Year (Rookie) and NASA Grant Teams:

Because the Chairman's Award recognizes sustained excellence and impact, not just a one-year team effort, it is not possible for a first-year (rookie) team to receive this honor. However, *FIRST* invites and encourage rookies to develop a Chairman's Award submission which may be evaluated by the judges determining the winner of the **Rookie All-Star Award**. This submission will document where your team started its *FIRST* journey and will also provide background for documenting the results of your team's efforts – it will be a great way to start your team's efforts to win the Chairman's Award.

Rookie Teams: If you prepare a Regional Chairman's Award, print a copy to give the Judges when they visit you at your Pit Station, judges will not be viewing them online.

Teams receiving **NASA Grants** must provide a copy of this submission as part of the grant.

All teams are encouraged to print a copy of their final submission for their records and to confirm for themselves that the submission was accepted.

5.4.3 Submission Information

The criteria for the 2009 Chairman's Award are essentially identical to those in the past, with special emphasis on recent accomplishments in both the 2008/2009-year and the preceding two years. The judges focus on teams' activities over a sustained period, as distinguished from just the six-week design-and-build time frame.

The *FIRST* Robotics Competition is not about machines; it is about the experience of people working together toward a shared goal. Documenting and preserving your team's *FIRST* experience becomes an important component of the over-all *FIRST* experience.

As in the past, teams may only submit at one Regional competition for judging. Teams submitting for both the Chairman's Award and the Woodie Flowers Award should note that both awards are judged at the same event. Students working on the Woodie Flowers Award submission and those team members working on the Chairman's Award submission should coordinate to select the best event for the team.

More information on this award can be found on the *FIRST* Website at:

<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=440>.

5.4.3.1 Submission Deadline

Chairman's Award submissions are **due no later than Thursday, February 19, 2009. 11:59 p.m. EST.**

5.4.3.2 Additional Requirement for 2009 Season

Teams competing for the Regional Chairman's Award must provide a video to the judges at the event. The content of the video should explain what the team has done to be a Regional Chairman's Award winning team. The video may be shown to the judges during the teams 5 minute presentation time at the discretion of the teams, however the team must provide the equipment for viewing (i.e., laptop). Although it is a requirement of submission, it is not a requirement for the judging process for 2009. Specifications for the DVD will be found on the *FIRST* website at: <http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=440>

5.4.3.3 The Chairman's Award Championship Award Process

At The Championship, a panel of judges will review the all the winning submissions and will select one ultimate Chairman's Award winner. This winning team has the additional honor of choosing one of its junior or senior student members to be the recipient of the Allaire Medal.

5.4.4 The Allaire Medal - Leadership Exemplified

The Chairman's Award is presented at the Championship to the *FIRST* team judged to have the best partnership effort. The Allaire Medal recognizes leadership exemplified and is awarded to an individual student on the winning Chairman's Award team.

Named in honor of Paul A. Allaire, a long-serving *FIRST* Chairman of the Board, the Allaire Medal is given to the student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership on his/her *FIRST* team, within his/her school and community, and whose personal character best embodies the spirit of *FIRST*.

The team receiving The Chairman's Award at the Championship will select the Allaire Medal recipient. The adult and student team members determine the winner. The recipient must be a high school junior or senior who has been accepted into a four-year degree program at a college or university. The Allaire Medalist receives the Allaire medallion and up to \$10,000 in total scholarship support for undergraduate tuition, room and board, fees, and books at his or her intended university or college.

5.5 CHAMPION (CHAMPIONSHIP ONLY)

This award celebrates the alliance that wins the final match of the Championship Playoffs.

5.6 CHAMPIONSHIP FINALIST (CHAMPIONSHIP ONLY)

This award celebrates the alliance that makes it to the final match of the Championship Playoffs.

5.7 CHRYSLER TEAM SPIRIT AWARD

This award celebrates extraordinary enthusiasm and spirit through exceptional partnership and teamwork.

5.8 DELPHI "DRIVING TOMORROW'S TECHNOLOGY™" AWARD

This award celebrates an elegant and advantageous machine feature. This award recognizes any aspect of engineering elegance including, but not limited to: design, wiring methods, material selection, programming techniques, and unique machine attributes. The criteria for this award are based on the team's ability to concisely describe verbally, as well as demonstrate, this chosen machine feature.

5.9 DIVISION FINALIST (CHAMPIONSHIP ONLY)

This award celebrates the alliance that makes it to the final match in its division at the Championship.

5.10 DIVISION CHAMPION (CHAMPIONSHIP ONLY)

This award celebrates the alliance that wins the final match in their division at the Championship.

5.11 ENGINEERING INSPIRATION AWARD

This award celebrates a team's outstanding success in advancing respect and appreciation for engineering and engineers, both within their school as well as their community. Criteria include: the extent and inventiveness of the team's efforts to recruit students to engineering, the extent and effectiveness of the team's community outreach efforts, and the measurable success of those efforts.

5.12 THE FOUNDER'S AWARD (CHAMPIONSHIP ONLY)

Each year *FIRST* presents this award to honor an organization or individual that has contributed significantly to the growth of *FIRST*.

Past winners of the Founder's Award include:

1993 Motorola, Inc.	2001 Autodesk, Inc.
1994 Honeywell	2002 John Doerr, partner, Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers
1995 Walt Disney World's Epcot	2003 Innovation First
1996 The City of Manchester, NH	2004 FedEx Corporation
1997 Francois Castaing of Chrysler Corporation	2005 The LEGO® Group
1998 Johnson & Johnson	2006 United Technologies Corporation
1999 NASA	2007 General Motors
2000 William Murphy, Founder of Cordis Corporation & Small Parts, Inc.	2008 BAE Systems

5.13 GENERAL MOTORS INDUSTRIAL DESIGN AWARD

This award celebrates form and function in an efficiently designed machine that effectively achieves the game challenge.

5.14 HIGHEST ROOKIE SEED AWARD

This award celebrates the highest-seeded rookie team at the conclusion of the qualifying rounds.

5.15 IMAGERY AWARD

This award celebrates attractiveness in engineering and outstanding visual aesthetic integration from the machine to team appearance.

5.16 JOHNSON & JOHNSON - GRACIOUS PROFESSIONALISM AWARD

This award celebrates outstanding sportsmanship and continuous gracious professionalism in the heat of competition, both on and off the playing field.

5.17 JUDGES' AWARD

During the course of the competition, the judging panel may encounter a team whose unique efforts, performance, or dynamics merit recognition.

5.18 KLEINER PERKINS CAUFIELD & BYERS ENTREPRENEURSHIP AWARD

This award celebrates the entrepreneurial spirit. This award recognizes a team, which since its inception has developed the framework for a comprehensive business plan in order to scope, manage, and obtain team objectives. This team displays entrepreneurial enthusiasm and the vital business skills for a self-sustaining program.

5.18.1 Business Plan Submission

A formal business plan must be completed and given to the judges during the Pit interview process. Teams should be prepared to talk about their plan at that time. A template has been provided below. Teams are free to create their own version. Refer to the FIRST website at <http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=440> for further details.

5.19 MOTOROLA QUALITY AWARD

This award celebrates machine robustness in concept and fabrication.

5.20 REGIONAL FINALIST (REGIONAL ONLY)

This award celebrates the alliance that makes it to the final match of the competition.

5.21 REGIONAL WINNER (REGIONAL ONLY)

This award celebrates the alliance that wins the final match of the competition.

5.22 ROCKWELL AUTOMATION INNOVATION IN CONTROL AWARD

This award celebrates an innovative control system or application of control components to provide unique machine functions

5.23 ROOKIE ALL-STAR AWARD

This award celebrates the rookie team exemplifying a young but strong partnership effort, as well as implementing the mission of *FIRST* to inspire students to learn more about science and technology.

NOTE: This is essentially the “Chairman’s Award for Rookie teams”. We encourage, but do not require, rookie teams to enter a Chairman’s Award submission relative to this award.

5.24 ROOKIE INSPIRATION AWARD

This award celebrates a rookie team’s outstanding success in advancing respect and appreciation for engineering and engineers both within their school, as well as in their community. It is the 2nd highest honor *FIRST* bestows to a rookie team.

5.25 UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AWARD

This award celebrates the team that progresses beyond safety fundamentals by using innovative ways to eliminate or protect against hazards. The winning team consistently demonstrates excellence in industrial safety performance that shines throughout the competition from uncrating to re-pack.

5.26 XEROX CREATIVITY AWARD

This award celebrates creative design, use of a component, or a creative or unique strategy of play.

5.27 WEBSITE AWARD

The Website Award recognizes excellence in student-designed, built, and managed *FIRST* team websites. Two subcategories of awards are awarded:

- 1) "Website Excellence" Every submission that meets the *FIRST* website design standards of excellence will receive the Website Excellence award.
- 2) "Best Website" One Best Website award will be given at each Regional Competition. The championship Best Website award winner will be chosen from among the regional Best Website award winners.

5.27.1 Submission and Deadline Information

Teams must enter their website into firstawards.org by **11:59 p.m. EST on February 12, 2009** to be evaluated. Each team's website is eligible for the website awards at every regional event at which the team is competing. The website must be complete and functional by the date of submission. Any website found to be "down," and not able to be viewed by the evaluators, will be disqualified.

Additional information can be found on the *FIRST* website at:
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=440>.

5.28 WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD

The Woodie Flowers Award celebrates effective communication in the art and science of engineering and design. Dr. William Murphy founded this prestigious award in 1996 to recognize mentors who lead, inspire, and empower using excellent communication skills.

Each year, students may submit an essay nominating one mentor from their team to be considered for this award. If a team already has a mentor who has won the Regional Woodie Flowers Award in a prior year, then that team may also re-submit that mentor in the current year. *FIRST* will recognize one adult mentor at each regional to receive the Regional Woodie Flowers Award. The current year Regional Woodie Flowers Award winners, along with those mentors who won a Regional Woodie Flowers Award in a prior year, and have been re-nominated, will be judged to receive the Woodie Flowers Award at the 2009 Championship in Atlanta.

5.28.1 Spirit of the Award

High school students on a *FIRST* Robotics Competition team may choose one adult team member as their WFFA candidate (eligibility information on *FIRST* website at: <http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=440>). The students will describe how this mentor has given them the best understanding of the challenges, opportunities, and satisfaction involved in the discipline of engineering and design. Professor Flowers will lead the past Championship Woodie Flowers Award (WFA) winners as they judge and select the 2009 Finalists and Championship winner based on student essays.

This award recognizes an individual who has done an outstanding job of motivation through communication while also challenging the students to be clear and succinct in recognizing the value of communication. As such, it is very important that this be a student led effort and a student decision.

Team mentors should direct their students to the online entry site and let the high school student nominators decide who to nominate. Adults can help edit, but this must be a student led effort, since any team mentor is eligible. Authors must be **clearly** identified as high school students in the online submission.

5.28.2 Submission Deadline

The Woodie Flowers Award entries are due Thursday, February 19th 11:59 p.m. EST. Eligibility and entry requirements, judging criteria and details on the entry process will be found on the *FIRST* website at: <http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=440>.

5.28.3 Prior Year Regional WFFA Winner Re-submission

Please refer to the 2009 Championship WFA eligibility requirements on the *FIRST* website. Student nominators must submit a new 600 word (max) essay in order for their previous year Regional WFFA winner to be eligible for the 2009 Championship WFA. Student nominators will not be able to edit the original submission. Past winners without a new essay will not be eligible for the WFA in 2009. While the judges can review past essays, the new essay must be able to stand alone as a complete submission.

Each *FIRST* team can have a maximum of one candidate for the 2009 Championship WFA.

5.29 FIRSTAWARDS.ORG SITE

FIRST will once again be using www.firstawards.org/ as a submission site for the Regional Chairman's Award, Hall of Fame, the Woodie Flowers Award and the Website Award. The *FIRSTawards.org* site will open for submissions at noon EST on January 13, 2009 and close for all submissions on Thursday, February 19, 2009 at 11:59PM EST. The submission requirements for each award are listed in the section for the specific award.

Teams should carefully read the following information about this site before proceeding.

5.29.1 Formatting

Entries cannot contain any formatting only plain text. The only formatting supported is paragraph spacing by way of the 'return' key.

5.29.2 Accounts

Teams must register for a new *firstawards.org* account every year. A team's TIMS account and their *firstawards.org* account are not the same. Teams can only have one *firstawards.org* account. There are not separate logins for Chairman's and WFA entries.

5.29.3 Verification of Submission

Teams should always log in to the *firstawards.org* site to verify the content and the submission date of their entry after it has been submitted. For the Chairman's Award (including veteran teams and those rookie teams planning to use the submission for the Rookie All Star Award) and Woodie Flowers Award entries, teams should print a copy of the submission and bring it with them to the Regional Event. NASA Grant teams should download a copy to have when NASA requests it. NASA does have access to this site, but in prior years some entries have not been completed successfully or the team did not check the NASA box and were required to supply a copy to NASA.