Editor's note: A photo is available here.



News Release

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Rosemount Parents Start Lego Robotics Club for Young, Aspiring Engineers

Rosemount, Minn. – Sixteen fourth- and fifth-grade students at Rosemount Elementary School (RES) will test self-programmed robots – made from sophisticated Lego sets – for the final time today as students command the robots to complete simple tasks. Today is the last day of the RES Lego Robotics Club.

The program was kick-started in November by three RES parents who saw a need for engineering opportunities for their children. With a startup grant from Flint Hills Resources, a devoted teacher, and support from the school principal, the club became a reality. The idea of the program was so popular that the school added a second session before the first one even began.

"Flint Hills is delighted to be able to provide the Rosemount Elementary Parent Teacher Organization with the support needed to kick off this great program," said Scott Lindemann, vice president and manufacturing manager at Flint Hills Resources. "As a high-tech manufacturer that employs hundreds of Minnesota engineers and skilled workers, we want to do everything we can to help encourage young people to take an interest in science and engineering."

The RES Lego Robotics Club challenges students to build and program small robots to complete simple tasks, such as pick up a piece of paper or navigate a track. Program organizers Becky and Nate Marks and Amy Sutton hope this session's success will allow them to not only keep the program going into the future, but to expand.

"We are thrilled with the club's success and the opportunity to provide our children with an engaging way to learn about engineering," Marks said. "We are so thankful for Flint Hills' start-up grant and the hard work of everyone involved." Flint Hills Resources Lego Robotics Program Page 2

In addition to the RES Lego Robotics Club, Flint Hills supports the following Minnesota science education programs:

- <u>FOX9 Girls & Science</u>: Since 2002 Flint Hills has sponsored Girls & Science, a program at the Science Museum of Minnesota that engages thousands of girls each year in scientific experiments and introduces them to inspiring women working in STEM careers.
- <u>Science Museum of Minnesota</u>: Since 2004 Flint Hills has sponsored educational programming and interactive Science Museum assemblies and sleepovers for thousands of students from across Minnesota. Last year the 75,000th student slept under the dinosaurs as part of the CampIn program.
- <u>The Works Museum</u>: Flint Hills partners with The Works Museum in Bloomington to bring "Family Engineering Night" to elementary schools in Dakota County. The program brings families together to learn about engineering design in fun ways.

<u>Click here</u> to view a photo of students working with their robots.

About Flint Hills Resources

Flint Hills Resources, LLC, through its subsidiaries, is an industry leader in refining, chemicals and grain processing, with operations primarily in Texas and the Midwest. Its manufacturing capability is built upon six decades of refining experience, and the company has expanded its operations through capital projects and acquisitions worth more than \$8.6 billion since 2002. Flint Hills Resources' subsidiaries produce and market gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, asphalt, ethanol, biodiesel, liquefied natural gas, olefins, polymers, intermediate chemicals, as well as base oils, corn oil and dried distillers grain. The company is based in Wichita, Kansas, and its more than 4,600 employees strive to create value for customers and society. More information about the company is available at <u>www.pinebendrefinery.com</u>.

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