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ROBOTICS EDUCATION & COMPETITION FOUNDATION ANNOUCES THE STATE OKLAHOMA CHAMPIONSHIP

The State Oklahoma Championship to take place at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah on March 5, 2016

February, 2016 – The Robotics Education & Competition (REC) Foundation is pleased to announce the State Oklahoma Championship to be held at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah on Saturday March 5, 2016. The event is expected to attract more than 88 teams with students from elementary, middle, and high school competing in the VEX IQ Challenge and the VEX Robotics Competition with a full day of robotics matches sponsored locally by the College of Education at Northeastern State University, Cherokee Nation and New Bright Toys. Over the last year in Oklahoma the VEX IQ Challenge and the VEX Robotics Competition have grown from approximately 153 to include more than 250 teams this year.

"Northeastern State University and the Robotics Academy of Critical Engagement has seen the growth and increased interest in robotics within the school systems throughout our state and we are thrilled to support our students' interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics by organizing the VEX Robotics Competition State Championship", Barbara Fuller, RACE director.

The REC Foundation's programs are among the largest and fastest growing in the world and in order to accommodate the explosive growth, numerous state events will be added in the coming years, offering students more opportunities to compete locally.

"The REC Foundation recognizes that successfully preparing our children for the future global economy will require a strong foundation in STEM education," said Jason Morrella, president of the REC Foundation. "Robotics engineering programs naturally engage and inspire students to pursue STEM subjects and careers and we are committed to providing students access to exciting and challenging competition experience, like the VEX IQ Challenge and the VEX Robotics Competition, to accommodate their growing interest."

The State Oklahoma Championship is one of a series of VEX IQ Challenges and VEX Robotics Competitions taking place internationally throughout the year. VEX

Robotics is the world's fastest growing competitive robotics program for elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, and colleges around the world, with more than 12,000 teams from over 30 countries that participate in more than 1,000 competitions worldwide. The competition season culminates each spring, with the highly-anticipated VEX Robotics World Championship presented by the Northrop Grumman Foundation and the REC Foundation, which unites top qualifying teams from local, state, and international VEX Robotics events.

For details on additional upcoming events, please visit www.RobotEvents.com, a resource for teams and event partners to register and share updates from their robotics competitions. For more information about the REC Foundation, please visit www.RoboticsEducation.org.

About the Robotics Education & Competition Foundation
The REC Foundation seeks to increase student interest and involvement in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) by engaging students in hands-on, sustainable and affordable curriculum-based robotics engineering programs across the U.S. and internationally. Its goal is to provide these programs with services, solutions, and a community that allows them to flourish in a way that fosters the technical and interpersonal skills necessary for students to succeed in the 21st Century. The REC Foundation develops partnerships with K-12 education, higher education, government, industry, and the non-profit community to achieve this work so that one day these programs will become accessible to all students and all schools in all communities. For more information on REC Foundation, visit www.RoboticsEducation.org.