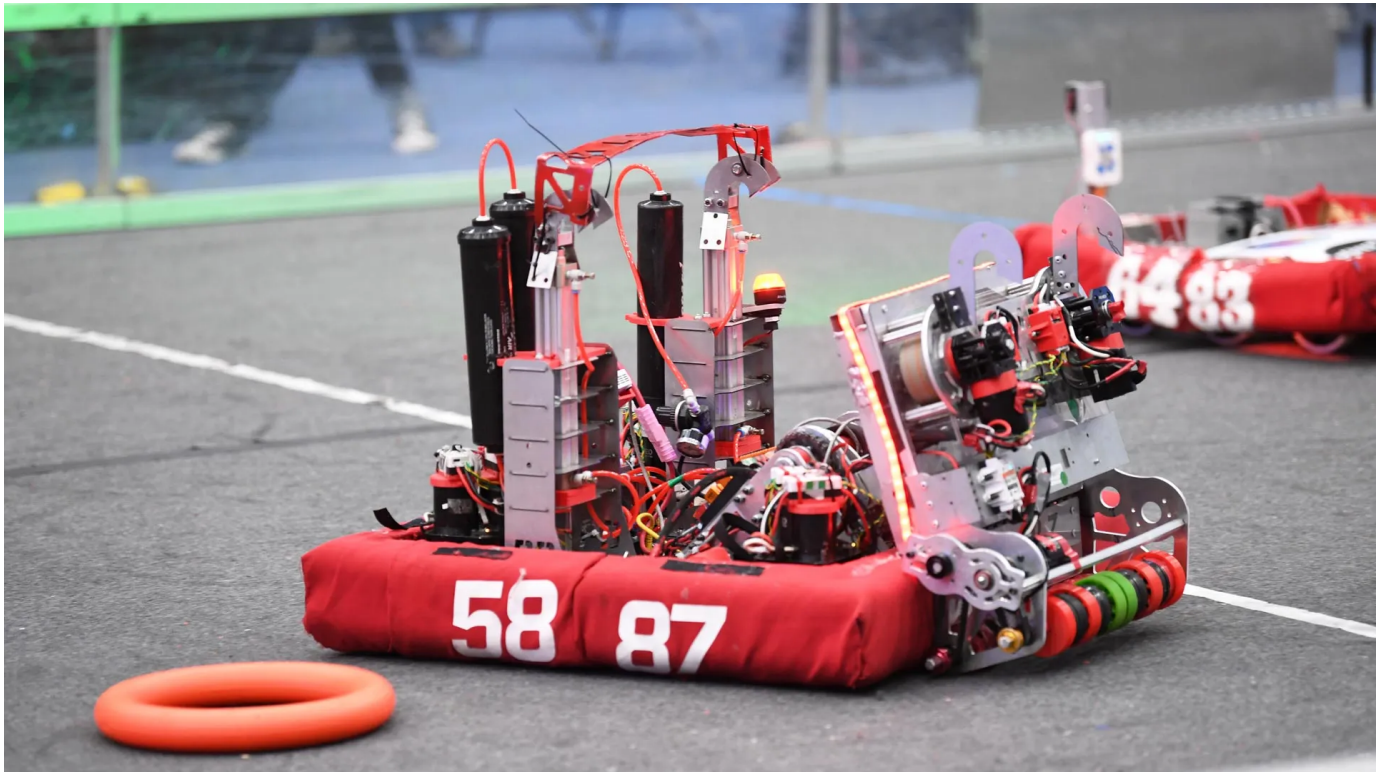


PrepaTec prepares for 2025 FIRST competition with “undersea” robots



The new challenge for the 2025 FIRST Robotics Competition is REEFSCAPE, which focuses on the diverse ecosystems of life beneath the ocean's surface

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A new edition of the [FIRST Robotics Competition](#) (FRC) is about to begin. As they do every year, **PrepaTec** teams are preparing for the robotics event, which brings together young people from **all over Mexico**.

REEFSCAPE, inspired by the **ocean and its diverse ecosystems**, is this year's robotic challenge, presented during the 2025 FIRST **global launch** on **January 4**.

*"FIRST is really something that **positively impacts** its surroundings and transforms those of us who interact with and experience it; we become **different people**."*

*“Although its main purpose is to aid students’ **development**, it also shows them the impact their work can have right now,”* said Crisantos Martinez, National Dean of PrepaTec.

Students first compete in the regional stage, which will have three dates in Mexico, with the aim of qualifying for the world championship.



The new season of FIRST was launched worldwide on January 4. Photo: Marlene González

The **three regional competitions** for high school students will be held in:

- **Monterrey**, Nuevo Leon: February 26 to March 1
- **Leon**, Guanajuato: March 12 to 15
- **Laguna**, Coahuila: March 19 to March 22

According to **Erika Calles**, Regional Director of PrepaTec Monterrey and General Director of the Monterrey region FRC, this event invites us to think about how to be **agents of change**.

*“This year, as the challenge is focused on the oceans, we have the **opportunity** to immerse ourselves in the great possibilities of positively influencing the **future** of our planet.*

*“FIRST invites us to be **innovative leaders** and problem solvers with the ability to transform our passion for science and technology into concrete action for protecting our oceans,”* said Calles.

Those teams who are regional winners will **qualify for the world finals** of the FIRST Robotics Competition to be held in Houston, Texas, from **April 16 to 19**.

“FIRST invites participants to be innovative leaders and problem solvers” - Erika Calles

Robots in the 'reef' at FIRST

During the new season of FIRST, called **DIVE**, teams will use their **collaborative** skills to explore life beneath the ocean’s surface.

In **REEFSCAPE**, **two alliances** of three teams each compete to score points by **collecting algae** (balls), **“planting” coral** (tubes) on their reef (metal support with bars), and returning to their **barge** (metal structure located in the center of the court and where the challenge ends).

Alliances will get additional rewards for scoring specific points and **collaborating with their opponents**.

According to the challenge presentation video, robots must prepare to return to the surface when their time is up, which involves hanging from one of the cages on the barge.

The alliance with the **most points wins** the game.

PrepaTec teams prepare

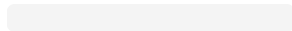
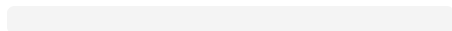
At the launch of the new season of FIRST, PrepaTec teams received **preparation kits**, which included materials for **programming** and **building** the robot.

Rafael Abrego, PrepaTec's National Director of Student Leadership and Education (LiFE), invited students to focus not only on the **robotic challenge** but also on the **emotional side**.

*"It's going to be a **roller coaster of emotions**. There'll be lots of energy and joy. Although we may think it's just about STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), there are also a lot of emotions," Abrego said.*



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About FIRST Robotics Competition

Founded in **1989** by inventor **Dean Kamen**, For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (**FIRST**) is a **global organization** that prepares young people for the future through inclusive, team-based robotics programs.

The **FIRST Robotics Competition** is an annual robotics tournament designed to encourage children and young people to get interested in science.

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