



The Pits of Elegance!

The competition is in three parts:

1. The Robot Shipping Crate

The crate shall be big enough to ship a 28" x 38" x 60" robot, 3 or 4 batteries (with proper signage), and the Robot Human Interface Controls. The crate must conform to the 05 Competition rules, Sections 6.1, 6.2, 6.3.1, 6.3.2, 6.3.3, and 6.3.4 (with a quiet attempt to side step 6.3.5).

2. The Tool Shipping Crate(s)

The crate(s) will efficiently carry the majority of the pit equipment: the tools, spare parts, and other miscellaneous stuff that needs to find its way into the pits. Two things would be advantageous for the Tool Shipping Crate(s), one, wheels - to facilitate movement into and out of the competition venue, two, no protrusions – like draw handles, locks, hasps, or hinges that would hinder tight packing of many Tool Shipping Crates in a Team Ford FIRST trailer.

3. The Fully Assembled Pit

(Remember at competition, you will be given approximately a 10' x 10' area with one or two power outlets and one 8' banquet table.)

A fully assembled pit would contain an organized tool storage system, orderly spare parts storage, adequate work space for robot, electrical distribution, display space team sponsor's names and logos and machine shop machines that might be in the pits. Consider the following: 1. The work space for the robot might have a way of keeping the wheels of the robot off the work surface so drive motors can be engaged without worrying about driving the robot over the edge! 2. A space for the programmer which would include a space for securing the computer when the pits are unattended. 3. A cart for transporting a robot to and from the playing field. (Consider, at some regionals, the robot, upon leaving the playing field has to immediately get into queue for the next match leaving absolutely NO time to return to the pits. So having an "essentials tool box", most likely-to-be-needed spare parts, and a fresh battery on the cart could be advantageous.)