



## Middle and High School Robotics Competition

Take plywood and a box filled with items such as PVC pipe, screws and other hardware, an irrigation valve cover, piano wire, aluminum paint grid, a bicycle inner tube, a **BRAIN** (*BEST Robotics Advanced Instruction Node* programmable platform), and something called a micro-energy chain system and try, within six weeks, to design and build a functioning machine that can perform certain, specific tasks in three minutes. What do you get?

You get **BEST (Boosting Engineering, Science and Technology) Robotics**, a competition whose mission is to **excite** K-12 students about engineering, science, and technology as well as **inspire** them to pursue careers in these fields.

**BEST is a K-12 workforce development program  
...cleverly disguised as a robotics competition!**

### BEST Facts

- Non-profit, 501(c)3
- **100% volunteer-driven**
- 38 “hubs” (competition sites) in 16 states in fall 2009
- Over 750 schools and 12,000 students participating in 2009
- **Free to schools** – no fees
- **Open to all schools** – regardless of type, location, or socio-economic status
- **Open to all students**
- **All equipment and materials provided**
- In addition to robotics, teams compete in oral presentations, technical writing, educational exhibit design, CAD design, website design, and much more



To learn more about BEST, go to [www.bestinc.org](http://www.bestinc.org)

View a BEST video here: [www.bestinc.org/MVC/Game/best\\_videos](http://www.bestinc.org/MVC/Game/best_videos)

Contact: George Blanks, Executive Director, at [blankgw@eng.auburn.edu](mailto:blankgw@eng.auburn.edu) (334.844.5759)