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## FIRST® Robotics “Duel in the Desert”

*Arizona High School FIRST Teams Preview Robots for Upcoming 2013 Arizona Regional; Scrimmage Hosted by 48West*

CHANDLER, Ariz.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Microchip Technology Inc. (NASDAQ: MCHP), a leading provider of microcontroller, mixed-signal, analog and Flash-IP solutions, and [FIRST®](#) (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) announce the “Duel in the Desert,” a robotics scrimmage hosted by [48West](#) on Saturday, February 16, 2013, at Chandler High School, 350 N. Arizona Avenue, Chandler, Ariz. Fifteen high-school teams will preview their robots for the upcoming First Robotics Competition (FRC) 2013 AZ Regional, which will be held March 22–23, 2013, at Hamilton High School in Chandler, Ariz. At the March regional event, 50 teams will participate. Winners of the worldwide regional competitions, including the Arizona regional, are eligible to attend the FRC World Championship in St. Louis, Mo., at Edward Jones Dome on April 24–27, 2013.

The game, “Ultimate Ascent<sup>SM</sup>,” challenges two alliances of three robots each to score points by tossing the highest number of discs into their respective goals. Extra points are awarded to robots that climb 10-foot-high tiered pyramids in the last seconds of the match. Any student participating on a *FIRST* team is eligible to apply for more than \$16 million in scholarships.

[Microchip Technology](#) is the organizing sponsor of the [FRC Arizona Regional](#), joining Leader in Technology sponsor Microchip employees through United Way Valley of the Sun donations; Captains of Innovation sponsors Army ROTC, Avnet, Craig and Barbara Barrett Foundation, Microchip Technology Inc., Wells Fargo Bank, Friends of the Future Sponsors, Best Buy Children’s Foundation, Go Daddy, ON Semiconductor, Steve and Maria Sanghi, FIRST Friends Sponsors, Chase Giving Foundation, and Wishes In Stitches. Additional sponsorship opportunities are still available.

Steve Sanghi, president and CEO of Microchip Technology, and member of the *FIRST* Board of Directors, said, “In addition to teaching students STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) disciplines, participants on a FIRST team learn about working on a deadline, raising funds, marketing, critical thinking and teamwork. These are the skills that we need to create a stronger and more informed workforce, to boost our economy.”

For more information about the FRC Arizona Regional, or to volunteer or sponsor a team, contact Carol Popovich at (480) 792-7938, cell (480) 335-2091, or [carol.popovich@microchip.com](mailto:carol.popovich@microchip.com).

### Resources

High-res FIRST and Ultimate Ascent<sup>SM</sup> logos Available Through Flickr or Editorial Contact (feel free to publish):

- FIRST Logo: <http://www.microchip.com/get/CUGN>

- Ultimate Ascent logo: <http://www.microchip.com/get/KDCL>

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Microchip Technology Inc. (NASDAQ: MCHP) is a leading provider of microcontroller, mixed-signal, analog and Flash-IP solutions, providing low-risk product development, lower total system cost and faster time to market for thousands of diverse customer applications worldwide. Headquartered in Chandler, Arizona, Microchip offers outstanding technical support along with dependable delivery and quality. For more information, visit the Microchip website at <http://www.microchip.com/get/8WX9>.

## About FIRST

Accomplished inventor [Dean Kamen](#) founded [FIRST](#)<sup>®</sup> (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) in 1989 to inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Based in Manchester, N.H., *FIRST* designs accessible, innovative programs to build self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills while motivating young people to pursue opportunities in science, technology, and engineering. To learn more about *FIRST*, go to <http://www.microchip.com/get/1GJG>.

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