

## **JUDGES' NOTE TO TEAMS**

The goal of the competition is to foster an understanding of the science, technology, and teamwork required to successfully operate an ROV in a simulated industrial, scientific, exploration, and/or military scenario, couched in a fun and friendly environment.

The competition judges use this philosophy when evaluating the ROVs. The judges will balance what the vehicle is expected to do (complexity of the task and how well the vehicle accomplishes it); the quality of the vehicle; and how the team came about building the vehicle (budget).

For example, with regards to sensors. Team A knows what to buy and trades options to get a good price. That would get some value as a score. Team B decides to build the sensor, is successful, and can explain the internal workings as well as the design principles used to create it. That would result in a better score. Team C attempts to build the sensor, can explain the internal workings as well as the design principles, but fails to make a working instrument. That would receive a lower score, but not zero. Team D builds a working sensor, can explain the internal workings as well as the design principles, but the sensor costs 5 times much as an off-the-shelf unit. That is a tough call, but the team would likely receive a score similar to that of Team A since the team built it, knew the internal workings and design principles behind it, but spent their budget. Finally, Team E makes no attempt whatsoever to create the sensor. That would receive a zero score.

Each of the judges will have a system and concept of values for themselves, which is why multiple judges are used and the scores are averaged.