

From Lead Robot Inspector

Teams,

A quick heads up: For the first time in my experience with FIRST, this year's sizing of your robot **INCLUDES** the required bumpers and any mechanical assemblies! What this means is that when your robot is inspected, the maximum volume specified in R03 of the Game Manual will include, at the minimum, the bumpers required by Section 8.5 of the Game Manual! Plan accordingly!

Further, the maximum volumes indicated in R03 and shown in the Figure at G04 enclose the maximum dimensions to which your robot can extend. That means if you have scoops, funnels, lips on hoppers, etc. that are contained within your frame perimeter at the start of the match (as they must be by R02), these items can extend no further than the bounds of the indicated maximum dimensions. You are advised to build your robot smaller than the volume in order to give your extensions room to expand beyond your bumpers, if necessary, after the start of the match.

Don't think of these volumes as the size to which you need to cut your chassis! If you do, you will have to rebuild your robot before you can play!!!

This change in the sizing definition has been discussed on the Q & A's and in Frank's Blog. I hope you have been following the discussions and have designed your robot correctly.

Also, if you haven't done it yet, start thinking **NOW** about your bumpers. As soon as you assemble your chassis frame, go ahead and cut your plywood bumper backing and attach it to the chassis. That way, you will know how your bumpers will be attached, what spaces you have to work with, and where you can attach other robot components.

If you have questions, feel free to contact me for clarification. My email is vwcygni@att.net.

Have a good build season!

"Dr. Bob" Tate
Lead Robot Inspector