

**Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School**  
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**PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**. Assabet Valley Robotics Brings Home the Hardware**

**Area.** The Assabet Valley Regional Technical High robotics team, the AZTECHS 157, successfully competed in the FIRST robotics Granite State Regional event held in Nashua, New Hampshire, this past weekend. After two days of grueling competition, using random alliances of three robots per team, the team finally bowed out in the quarter finals, ending up in 5<sup>th</sup> place overall. Forty teams competed from all over New England, with over a thousand high school students screaming and cheering, dancing and singing, decked out in their school or team colors, showing their spirit. The event was sponsored by BAE Systems, and hosted by Nashua South High School. As the various awards were presented at the closing ceremonies, the AZTECHS were thrilled to be awarded the Judges' Award for their effective and creative use of the technology of the future, having made much of their robot parts on their 3D printers.

"We were very fortunate to have a new sponsor and mentor, Randy Lennox of 3DSDP, join our ranks this year. He worked so well with the Design Team, and with his guidance, the students went all out in their use of the 3D printing technology. Much of our robot was made out of blue and yellow plastic," laughed Marcus Fletcher, Project Leader of the AZTECHS, and a 1999 graduate of the school and team. "Our seniors enjoyed working with and learned so much from Randy that they nominated him for the coveted Woody Flowers Award, one of the most prestigious awards for FIRST mentors."

The team is grateful to their other major sponsors, Boston Scientific, EMC, Raytheon, Entwistle, Notechnik, Inc., Fastenerz, and Central Mass Powder Coating. "Without the support of these fantastic companies, we would never be able to do what we do. We look forward to continuing our strong relationships with our sponsors, and hope to add more for next year," continued Fletcher.

Taglines for pictures:

Holding their Judges' Award for effectively and creatively utilizing the technology of the future, 3D printing, are AZTECH 157 team members Elizabeth Lowe and Samantha Barakian, from West Boylston, Project Leader Marcus Fletcher, Kayleigh Stevens, Shrewsbury, Ava Rule, Marlborough, Gianna Ferrecchia, Berlin, Patrick Hughes, Clinton, and Teju Nareddy, South Grafton. Nareddy actually attends AMSA, but joined the team several years ago.

Seniors on the AZTECHS 157 take a break from the competition for a photo op, as follows: Elizabeth Lowe, West Boylston, Patrick Hughes, Clinton, Zak Supernor, Hudson, Kayleigh Stevens, Shrewsbury, Ava Rule, Marlborough, Teju Nareddy, South Grafton, and Gianna Ferrecchia, Berlin.

John Suraci, a freshman from West Boylston, enjoys being the AZTECHS 157 mascot during the Granite State Regional competition of FIRST robotics.