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1. Introduction

Force Fusion Foundation was originally established on 20th November 2017 in Eindhoven. The foundation springs and functions based on its motto "Inspire them and let them amaze you". The core purpose of this foundation is to inspire young adults in the fields of STEAM: science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics. The goal ultimately, is to create generations of highly creative, innovative and inspired engineers that contribute to the betterment of the world by not only treating engineering as their profession but also as their passion they so willfully follow.

The foundation and its members ensure they build a path to achieving this goal alongside their journeys with the foundation. The foundation is critical in sieving through a bunch of curious engineers each year that have the initiative to learn beyond the boundaries of a classroom and a curriculum, have the courage to try new and bold ideas and have the honesty to reflect upon their journey followed by the open-mindedness to transfer that knowledge to their succeeding generation. This process builds a legacy of inspirational individualistic engineers that set an example for their upcoming contemporaries.

Subsequently, in order to achieve this, Force Fusion Foundation has encountered another, much larger organization that holds the same beliefs and vision as our foundation. This partner is the American FIRST Competition. FIRST is a non-profit organization which aims via mentor-based programs to build science, engineering and technology skills, and to inspire interest and innovation within the next generations. FIRST breeds a community of young technology enthusiasts that start as early as their kindergarten years. Annually, FIRST organizes competition ranging from kindergarten [age5] FIRST Lego League JR to the high school FIRST Robotics Competition. Force Fusion Foundation, by the means of its team named: Team Force Fusion, currently partakes in the FIRST Robotics Competition [hereon referred to as FRC] as a step in achieving our goal.

Team Force Fusion is a large part of the Force Fusion Foundation in current times. The FIRST Robotics Competition is the highest level of the competition that first began in 1992 and it is almost fully based in America with over 3000 teams participating now, less than 15 of which are based in Europe [excluding Turkey]. Adhering to the motto of Force Fusion Foundation, its FRC team is entirely organized by the students, for the students and functions solely based on knowledge transfer from generation to generation building a legacy of inspirational engineers.

As a steppingstone to achieve more success on this path, it is crucial that both the team and the foundation garner a lot of financial, material and knowledge support from leading experts in the field on science and technology. So far, we have been fortunate to amass this support from some major companies such as PRODRIVE Technologies, NIDEC, SMC Nederland and FESTO amongst others. However, in this area, we can only grow. Therefore, obtaining the ANBI status, is a development in the right direction.

2. Mission and Vision

Force Fusion Foundation was set up by Mr. Max Bogers a lecturer in the Mechatronics Department of the Fontys University of Applied Sciences Eindhoven and five of his students, namely: Ms. Nikoletta Nikolova, Mr. Richard Knijnenburg, Mr. Karel van de Vrie, Mr. Jasper Schrama and Mr. Mike van Duijnhoven.

The foundation was set up to further their interests and learning from the FIRST Robotics Competition in their own way to the other students within the university and high school students from the OMO Scholengroep Helmond. This foundation has given them the liberty and opportunity to meet more like-minded individuals that they can learn from and teach to. In just under two years, the group of six founders has grown to a bustling sixty people that include various students from the university and high schools, board members and mentors from the third year of bachelors' study and all the other hundreds of people connected over social media platforms from around the world!

This in its true essence has lived up to the motto 'Inspire them and let them amaze you' as the overwhelming response from everyone and effort that the members have put into this foundation has skyrocketed its reputation and reach.

However, this is just the beginning still. The foundation aspires to involve a lot of younger people in its cause and see them move on to achieve greater things in life. It is amidst building a platform that develops a student not just on a professional but also on a personal level by exposing them to true independence of learning and thought, to equipping students with a whole new range of holistic skills and professional tools that entrepreneurship and leading companies seek out for. It wants to prepare students for the future by letting them experience it bit by bit today!

The founding members discovered early on that there are no real foundations in the Netherlands that encourage students to become engineers. The foundation believes young adults constantly look up to athletes and entertainers but there are limited choices when it comes to technical fields. By establishing a foundation as rare as this one, it will give the young adults of this generation a chance to explore the fields of STEAM. The founders had previously visited America for the American FIRST competition, the culture set around it inspired them to establish Team Force Fusion which could compete in the American FIRST competition. This team is now a big part of the Force Fusion Foundation and is the main source of involving young adults with the initiative. Creating this team, the foundation discovered that there are over three thousand teams participating in America and overseas only fifteen of which are situated in Europe. Today, Force Fusion is proud to be one of the only four teams in the Netherlands to participate in this competition. This foundation has managed to provide structural possibilities for young adults who are interested in technical studies to enroll in a program where they can further explore their interest in a structured way and analyze its outcomes. That remains the mission and vision of the foundation.

3. Policy

3.1. Goals

The main goal of the foundation is to inspire young adults in the fields of STEAM by letting them explore it structurally and relatively independently in order to enhance their innovation, creativity and critical thinking skills. Alongside this, the foundation aims to help the youth develop interpersonal and holistic skills such as public speaking, presentation, professional conduct, teamwork etc. as these will better equip the future generations to work and develop a relaxed and productive professional atmosphere.

The goal is also to provide younger kids with valuable and credible experience that they can use going into the future. A lot of the children come out of this experience knowing what they want to pursue for the rest of their lives, and this kind of certainty in the younger generations will ensure a better and a creative future, globally.

Another goal of the foundation is to introduce the members to a global environment full of different culture. The foundation has multi-racial members who come from over twelve different countries of the world. The foundation also allows its members to meet and interact with other students from different parts of the world, this ensures that the future generations are more aware and equipped to build a global society that can learn from and empower each other. A connection like this is crucial in being able to further the mission and vision of the foundation.

3.2. Strategy

To ensure that the foundation meets its goals it follows certain strategies:

- Team Force Fusion: this is the biggest strategy that the foundation practices to achieve the goals it has set for itself. The team every year recruits' high school and HBO students to participate in the American FIRST competition. This holistic and technical experience helps the foundation attain all the goals it has set for itself by helping students improve holistic and technical skills alike as well as develop interpersonal skills in an international setting.
- FIRST Lego Leagues: staying inspired by the FIRST competitions, to inspire younger students and increase the community outreach the members of the foundation attend FIRST Lego Leagues. Here the foundation and its goals are represented, and the children are given a chance to interact with the members and learn from their experiences. During this, the foundation also takes the opportunity to go look at robots that the younger students have made and help them where they can to improve the design or code.
- Company visits and meetings: keeping in mind, there needs to be structural and professional development for the members of the foundation and the young adults associated with it; the foundation lets the members represent itself during company visit and meetings for partnerships. This makes the youth the focus of the project and helps them develop a confidence that is



unparallel to any other experience offered to them within the syllabus of the school.

- Technology fairs: similar to the FIRST Lego League, the foundation also presents itself in various technology fairs and events hosted by its partner companies and otherwise. Here, the members talk about their experience within the team, meet new companies, learn about new technology and bring it back with them as inspiration to develop and perform better. This helps increase the outreach of the team as the companies and organizations get to meet the young inspired engineers and hear about their creativity, innovation and persistence in the field of engineering.



4. Present Situation

Since its origin the Foundation has set up Team Force Fusion that participates in the American FIRST Robotics Competition in America every year. The year 2019 will be the second consecutive year the team will partake in this journey. Within its first year the team already went on to win the Rookie Inspirational award with the robot they made. This award is a selective award sponsored by National Instruments and given only to the teams that have achieved 'outstanding success in advancing respect and appreciation for engineering and engineers, both within their school, as well as in their community.'

Here in the Netherlands as well, the team continues to make massive progress. An initiative that started with six people now has a total of sixty volunteers attached to it. In a matter of 18 months the foundation has managed to multiply its outreach to young adults ten times; and the group now involves a diverse cultural and age background of students from all over the world between the ages of 10-22. Simultaneously, to ensure that the team is able to make the most of their creativity the foundation has invested in a number of tools and materials such as power tools for building the robot and prototyping.

Likewise, the foundation has been fortunate enough to be able to grow their outreach and inspire not just the students but the companies alike. There are currently twenty partner companies and organizations that sponsor a variety of finance, materials and knowledge to the team and partake in the foundation's mission and vision of inspiring young adults in the fields of STEM by equipping them with the necessities required to bring their vision to life. The following is a list of all our current partner companies [note: there are multiple other potential ones that are currently work in progress that are not mentioned here]:



COMPANY NAME	SPONSORSHIP DESCRIPTION	PARTNER SINCE
NIDEC INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION	Shipping of flight case Courses on motors and drivers Hosting kick-off event	2017
PRODRIVE TECHNOLOGIES BV	Building location Technical knowledge Use of their facilities [dinner etc]	2017
RIANO EINDHOVEN BV	Metal treatment (annodizing etc.)	2018
MUNSTERS METAAL HELMOND	Metal working (welding/sheetmetal etc.)	2018
3DTEC BV	Laser cutting of metal	2018
OERLEMANS PACKAGING BV	3500 financial + some materials	2017
SMC PNEUMATICS	courses on pneumatics + pneumatic parts	2017
R&L RECYCLING	Workstation + 4 pc's + 4 laptops	2017
REFITECH BV	Carbon fibre materials	2017
CONCLUSION XFORCE BV	500 financial + 2 pc's (possible servers) + loads of periphials	2017
SICK BV	undisclosed budget for ordering their sensors + course on sensors	2017
IGUS BV	Harting connectors	2018
VANDERLANDE	3500 financial	2017
NTS GROUP	1500 financial + possible production of parts (to be discussed)	2018
FESTO	courses on pneumatics + pneumatic parts	2018
DR. KNIPPENBERG COLLEGE	Teamclothing (polos) + financial for HS student trip	2017
FONTYS HOGESCHOOLEN	10,600 Euros financial sponsorship	2018
HOPPENBROUWERS	1,500 Euros financial sponsorship	2018
KMWE	Building location Sheet metal Milling	2018
LIME	3000 Euros financial sponsorship	2018
FELIX PRINTERS	3D Printer	2018
ELCEE	Robot lift system	2018
FLUKE	Electrical measuring equipment	2019
PRODUKMEDIA	Foundation website	2019

5. Future

Force Fusion Foundation is on a quest to support learning through play. Our mission and vision support this quest and encourages us to allow children to use their creativity and be stimulated to develop themselves in a technical and holistic field. Naturally, there is some structure that is needed to allow us to achieve this goal and therefore we are amid building a system around the central idea of 'not letting your inner child die'.

In the upcoming future, Force Fusion Foundation would like to set up a building to forward our vision. It will be the home of all experiences. A place where children and adults can come together to create, innovate and learn from each other's experiences. At the foundation, we believe that children learn most when they are having fun. Therefore, this system will be built around the essential values:

- Learning
- Caring
- Quality
- Imagination
- Creativity
- Fun

These values will help develop the confidence, self-esteem and vision of a child. It will empower children to think out of the box and be risk takers.

5.1. LEGO voor Nepal

Outside of developing the children in the Netherlands where the foundation originated and is currently established, the members of the foundation believe it is imperative to empower children globally. To be able to match the footsteps of one another in the fields of innovation and creation, to be able to understand the culture and needs of one another across the globe. Therefore, keeping this in mind, the members of Force Fusion Foundation are looking forward to collaborating with Edulent Foundation [an ANBI listed foundation] in their initiative to bring LEGO to a developing country such as Nepal.

Edulent Foundation brings LEGO from FIRST to Nepal to empower the kids there in the fields of STEAM. Force Fusion foundation not only encourages but applauds this initiative and hence is eager to be a part of it. Our members are already working up plans and ideas to bring to Nepal with us to further the mission and vision of both foundations. This will be an experience of a lifetime for both the kids in Nepal and the members of the foundation as it will introduce us all to a new culture, new way of thinking and way of life that has previously never been experienced. In a world driven by differences, science would be the main binding factor between the two contrasting backgrounds of the young adults that will work and communicate with each other.

6. Organization and Finances

Legal Details		
Chamber of Commerce Number	70144761	
Rechtsvorm [Legal Form]	Stichting	
Statutory Name	Stichting Force Fusion	
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Client Number		
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IBAN	NL08 RABO 0332 4322 97	