FIRST Global, Title Sponsor Lam Research to Host the World's Most International Innovation Challenge to Inspire Kids in STEM, Future Solutions for Climate Change

Nearly 200 countries to compete in robotics at the 2023 FIRST Global Challenge in Singapore

WASHINGTON and FREMONT, Calif., Sept. 25, 2023 /PRNewswire/ -- The 2023 *FIRST* Global Challenge will in a few weeks bring together thousands of teens from across the globe to compete in robotics and collaborate to find renewable energy solutions. Created and administered by *FIRST* Global and helped made possible by Title Sponsor Lam Research, the exciting four-day event is intended to encourage the next generation of innovators.

Lam Research, FIRST Global welcome kids from 190+ countries to compete in robotics and green tech

The 2023 *FIRST* Global Challenge will be held in Singapore from October 7-10, 2023. The event focuses on cultivating a passion for science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) through competition and fun. Now in its seventh year, the Challenge continues to grow in size and scale. Under this year's theme, "Hydrogen Horizons," competing high school age students will learn about renewable energy and sharpen their problem-solving skills. With nearly 200 countries competing, the event is the most multinational innovation competition in the world, according to *FIRST* Global.

"The 2023 *FIRST* Global Challenge is more than a robotics and STEM challenge, it's a springboard to inspire curiosity, the innovative spirit, and the understanding of what's possible when we work together," said Dean Kamen, founder of *FIRST* Global. "We are thrilled to bring the *FIRST* Global Challenge to Singapore. This year, the event is of particular importance as it centers on revolutionizing renewable energy — one of the world's most pressing problems."

Powering Breakthroughs Together

Lam, a global supplier of innovative wafer fabrication equipment and services to the semiconductor industry, believes that increasing the pipeline of future talent in technology is not only critical to driving the future of semiconductors but also enabling the world to tackle its biggest challenges.

"As we continue to transform the world through technology, we are committed to taking an active role in inspiring and empowering the next generation to help create a better world," said Stacey MacNeil, chief communications officer and group vice president of ESG at Lam Research. "The *FIRST* Global Challenge provides life-changing learning experiences for competing students, equipping them with the knowledge and skillsets needed to succeed in the innovation workforce of the future."

The company has pledged a $10 million donation* to *FIRST* Global, providing critical funding to support *FIRST* Global's mission to expand access to STEM education and cultivate future global technology leaders. The Lam donation is the company's most significant gift since unveiling its social impact platform, Powering Breakthroughs Together, in 2022. This year, Lam has also provided over 30 mentors worldwide for competing teams, helping to ensure every youth team has an opportunity to thrive at the event.

Teens to Collaborate on Robotics and Develop New Renewable Energy Solutions

During the *FIRST* Global Challenge, each team will put their unique robot built for the competition to the test in a series of matches and challenges related to renewable energy. Robots will be navigated through a game environment which represents the process of hydrogen energy development. Each team's robot will score points by producing hydrogen and then storing, transporting, and converting energy. Teams will work together in randomly selected multi-country alliances to score points, thereby encouraging global cooperation and collaborative innovation.

FIRST Global teams will also compete in an innovation competition known as the New Technology Experience (NTE). Under the NTE theme "Energy Evolution," teams are guided to understand all types of renewable energy, including hydrogen technologies. *FIRST* Global teams will then research and develop their own innovative solutions to advance the implementation of and improve access to renewable energy.

More information on the 2023 *FIRST* Global Challenge can be found at first.global.

Media Resources:

- Watch the 2023 *FIRST* Global Challenge official promo video here.
- View the 2023 *FIRST* Global Challenge live starting October 7 at https://first.global/live/
- Details from participating country teams can be found at https://first.global/fgc/#teams
- Images of the 2023 Challenge to be available following the event in the Media Center in the Lam Research Newsroom.
- Visit Lamresearch.com to learn more about Lam's Powering Breakthroughs Together platform.

About *FIRST* Global

FIRST Global's mission is to inspire science and technology leadership and innovation in youth from all nations in order to increase understanding, instill the importance of cooperation, address the world's most pressing issues, and improve quality of life for all. Bringing these future STEM leaders together in an engaging and collaborative competition drives home the importance, excitement, and applicability of STEM education and demonstrates that they can work together — even in competition — to find solutions to the world's greatest challenges. Learn more at first.global.

About Lam Research

Lam Research Corporation (NASDAQ: LRCX) is a global supplier of innovative wafer fabrication equipment and services to the semiconductor industry. Lam's equipment and services allow customers to build smaller and better performing devices. In fact, today, nearly every advanced chip is built with Lam technology. We combine superior systems engineering, technology leadership, and a strong values-based culture, with an unwavering commitment to our customers. Lam Research is a FORTUNE 500® company headquartered in Fremont, California, with operations around the globe. Learn more at www.lamresearch.com.

*Contribution to be distributed over a three-year period, from 2023-2025.

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