

## Chairman's Award - Team 5705

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2022 - Team 5705

**Team Number**

5705

**Team Nickname**

DESERT EAGLES

**Team Location**

Torreon, Coahuila - Mexico

**Describe the impact of the *FIRST* program on team participants within the last 3 years. This can include but is not limited to percentages of those graduating high school, attending college, in STEM careers, and in *FIRST* programs as mentors/sponsors.**

FIRST inspires them to study a STEAM career, considering that the 100% of the team's graduates study a university career and 95% opted for engineering. Proving the team's great interest in STEAM, 26 team members mentors are mentoring 9 teams, as well as engaging with 15 nationals and internationals teams, FIRST has transformed the lives of 135 women in our history creating recognized leaders in various international organizations.

**Describe your community along with how your team addresses its unique opportunities and circumstances.**

We supported 15 teams online and in person during the pandemic, also we donated more than 500 face shields masks and "Y" valves to hospitals and schools, in CONALEP we donated more than 700 face shields masks to teachers and students, we also built a robot that disinfects areas to be able to go to classes in a hybrid way (RECOCOV), which was the winner in FENACI and nationally televised. In addition, year after year we support TELETON and different associations with the collection of lids.

**Describe the team's methods, with emphasis on the past 3 years, for spreading the *FIRST* message in ways that are effective, scalable, sustainable, and creative. How does your team measure results?**

DE FOR ME is methodology of the team to teach the following generations FIRST and its success has been passed down through teams and even abroad, since we have attended seasonal events in all categories as volunteers since 2018 and even during the last 4 years at FIRST GLOBAL, which has allowed us to help teams around the world. We have visited over 45 primary and high schools, engaging over 20,000 children and young people.

**Please provide specific examples of how your team members act as role models within the *FIRST* community with emphasis on the past 3 years.**

Over time some of our members have been recognized, for 3 generations with the ICA medal (2015, 2019 and 2021), 2 with the Coahuila state youth award (2019 and 2021), in addition to the recognition by UNESCO to Esmeralda Medina for having created easy access technology (DABID) for the people with visually impaired, also Santiago Mesta who at 22 years old has participated in more than 20 FIRST events, including 4 FIRST Global as a volunteer.

**Describe your team's initiatives to Assist, Mentor, and/or Start other *FIRST* teams with emphasis on activities within the past 3 years.**

Over the years some of our graduates take off on and chosen to create their own *FIRST* team, such as the following teams: Techno R4v7ns 7669, Apollo Black Cat 8105, Pioneers 8383, Venebots 7699 (Venezuela) in the FRC category, Ranas Doradas 8602 in FRC and 18355 in FTC (Colombia), as well as the Bufalbots team in the FLL category, demonstrating that when it comes to applying *FIRST* values, Desert Eagles knows no borders.

**Beyond starting teams, what initiatives have you done to help inspire young people to be science and technology leaders and innovators? What results have you seen from your efforts in the past 3 years?**

A clear example of how we do this are activities such as Moorelear, where Saturday to Saturday information about technology, robotics and science is shared reaching of 6000 people per edition. From 2015 to 2019 we perform monthly at Paseo Colón, impacting more than 5000 people on each occasion, we have also held 6 summer camps since 2017, impacting more than 150 kids, as well as a mentor speaker to empower 100 kids per week.

**Describe the partnerships you've created with other organizations (teams, sponsors, educational institutions, philanthropic entities, etc.) and what you have accomplished together with emphasis on the past 3 years**

We managed to inspire associations such as "Murciélagos Laguna A.C.", as together we teach courses for visually impaired children, as well as in CONALEP we teach classes to other schools in inclusive spaces, our team has a five-year agreement in personalized mentoring and development of project with STEM Movement and in the search to get involved with other teams "DAYS SERVICE" was born, an alliance with teams 8105, 8291 and 6832 in order to support each other.

**Describe your team's efforts in the past 3 years to promote equity, diversity, and inclusion within your team, *FIRST*, and your communities.**

We are convinced that robotics has a place for everyone, which is why we have given courses over 4 years to more than 50 visually impaired children, in the same way that we do in the association "Ver contigo", where we share our knowledge in robotics. We encourage people from LGBTQ+ community to take an interest in STEM areas just as we do with girls and women, with 94% of women in the team deciding to study engineering.

**Explain how you ensure your team and the initiatives you have created will continue to run effectively for the foreseeable future**

5705 seeks to develop and encourage new students to get involved and participate together with veteran students and mentors through the DE FOR ME methodology, thus creating a chain reaction, which has given us great results, such as robotics courses and workshops given at Ver Contigo A.C., Murciélagos A.C., CECOM PEÑOLES and CONALEP, which over time have helped us to discover the future leaders that best represent the team's philosophy, to be SEEDS OF CHANGE.

**Describe your team's innovative strategies to recruit, retain, and engage your sponsors within the past 3 years**

We have achieved to get large industries in the Laguna to wear green, such as our main sponsor JOHN DEERE, who has supported this dream from the first day until today, with more than \$60,000 USD for registration, materials, mentors and workshops; our school CONALEP has given us more than \$25,000 USD for travel, materials and uniforms; and since 2016, PEÑOLES has given us more than \$30,000 USD for materials and travel expenses; RUDO with materials and machining, and many more.

**Highlight one area in which your team needs to improve and describe the steps actively being taken to make those improvements.**

For us, collaborative work is very important, as we seek to improve our skills and abilities, that's why we consider improving our technical and business areas. To achieve this, the mentors in charge of the areas (80% alumni and 20% JD mentors) are constantly training members, carrying out recruitment activities, motivational talks, and communication exercises to perfect all possible *FIRST* skills.

**Describe your team's goals to fulfill the mission of *FIRST* and the progress you have made towards those goals.**

In 7 years of our history, we have promoted 8 leaders of tomorrow, winners of the 100% scholarship at the ITESM, as well as a scholarship to France by the UTT. In addition, we have multiple participations in collaboration with courses with the STEM movement association, leading some workshops and mentoring. We have had the opportunity to participate in other competitions such as FENACI and EXPOCIENCIAS, being recognized with awards and honorable mentions at state and national level.

**Briefly describe other matters of interest to the *FIRST* Judges, including items that may not fit into the above topics. The judges are interested in learning about aspects of your team that may be unique or particularly noteworthy.**

Our students stand out as one of the most successful in the region and the country, as they have not only competed in *FIRST*, but have taken off on and have successfully represented their universities, as is the case of +10 alumni who have participated for ITL in national and international competitions and world championships (IMECE) of the American Society

of Mechanical Engineers (ASME). Alumni from other universities such as ITESM, UTT and UAC have also done well in these competitions.

## Essay

### CAN YOU IMAGINE

Can you Imagine? Imagine that all the things you can create in your mind become an incredible truth; and realize that in a blink of an eye you have more than 7 years doing this, creating all the things you always imagined like we did, making much more than helping and inspiring each of the members in the team and promoting love to education and not just to them, but also to kids and people that want to learn to fly as an eagle will do. The power of sharing knowledge and emotions to every person that decides being part of the movement, but overall impact and encourage thousands of hearts that dare to build what someone once imagined, and achieve what you always dreamed, and as I did it, you did it and we will keep doing it carrying the name of DESERT EAGLES 5705.

### #IMAGINE GROWING FROM A SEED

Everything begins with the union of the biggest ideas to transform the world, innovator minds with the desire of making things happen, sowing a seed, an idea, a dream, a spark of curiosity, and that's how the flight, since October of the 2014 in our institution CONALEP Torreón, when JOHN DEERE, the biggest leader company in agriculture worldwide gave us the trust of using his colors in the fantastic world of FIRST, and that is how our great family begins named "DESERT EAGLES 5705". The name has been proudly represented for 8 generations, with a total of more than 330 members since our beginnings, and that years later someone will join our trip one of the biggest metallurgic corporations in the world "Industrias MET-MEX PEÑOLES" and this will make our team even better that what already was. Desert Eagles is more than just a simple opportunity, and that flight that, if you choose to take, can take you to places with a lot of adventures, beyond to the ones you once imagined achieving.

### #IMAGINE COMMUNITY EAGLES

DE's Factory is our programme to show the world how much we support, participate and impact the community and everything around us. Actively contributing to associations that promote different causes, such as education, this is why we have taught robotics courses to more than 250 children over 6 years, we created the first robotics club composed of members with visual impairment in "Ver Contigo A.C." We have visited around 45 primary and secondary schools in our region, reaching more than 20,000 children and young people who now know that there will always be an eagle there to help them take flight into the world of FIRST.

We also managed to be that inspiration through the association "Murciélagos A.C." where together, with our mentor Gerardo Sotelo, we contributed with robotics classes for children between 6 and 15 years old with visual disabilities. This alliance resulted in one of the most incredible projects for the future, where together we will seek to make all education inclusive, teaching classes to students and teachers at colleges and other schools in our Laguna region.

Every Saturday, since 2016, we have participated in "Morelear A.C.". Sharing information about STEM, reaching over 6,000 people for each one of them. We also participate, in the same way, in "Paseo Colón", reaching more than 5000 people in each edition. We have managed to position ourselves as a much-loved team in FIRST and our community.

### #IMAGINE DESERT IMPACT

Some time ago a teacher told us that change came from ourselves. However, success comes from the hand of a brother, a friend, and a family; that family is DESERT EAGLES 5705. Together with our methodology DE FOR ME, which focuses on teaching the next generations of the team, we have managed to promote hundreds of young people who today are in a university career and of which 95% opted for STEM careers. Among them, eight "Leaders of tomorrow" winners of the 100% scholarship at ITESM, a winner of a language exchange at UTT and Sebastian Vitela, at the same university, was awarded a scholarship to start engineering in France. Also, throughout our history, three generations have received the ICA medal (2015, 2019 and 2021), two generations the Coahuila state youth award (2019 and 2021), and in 2019 we were winners of the Santander-CONALEP entrepreneurs and prototypes award, giving us greater prestige at a national level. In addition, the recognition by UNESCO to Esmeralda Medina, for having created DABID, which consists of easy access technology for people with visual disabilities that already has a patent. Demonstrating that our family is always encouraging all people, regardless of gender, background, sexual orientation, skin colour, status, or beliefs to enter the world of STEM.

### #IMAGINE STEAM CHANGERS

The inspiration that has received from has encouraged us to enter great fields of STEM. For more than 5 years we have represented our institution in competitions, expos, congresses, and fairs related to science and technology, getting the opportunity to introduce us in EXPOCIENCIAS, FENACI, COECYT and CONACYT and in all of them we have obtained the opportunity to participate in the national stage, and to be in the first places and as an example with the DABID project.

We also have an agreement with the STEM movement, that provide us personalised mentoring from professionals, pioneering the implementation of new methodologies for learning, developing new ideas and more, helping us to discover skills, aptitudes, and abilities within STEM. In turn, together with the Laguna Civic Association, we participate in the "Jovenes Lideres" program so that they can become future leaders and thus be able to have a plan for the future, dreams to achieve, or the profession you would like to study.

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Seeking to get young people interested in science and technology, we are part of the programme "1, 2, 3x Newton", which is a group of young people and teachers from the lagoon from different institutions through the union with science clubs and with the idea of maximising this we help to promote the Science Outreach Network of Northern Mexico. In addition, since 2016 we have participated in the WER competition, with the purpose of stimulating the development and a current vision of globalisation in primary, secondary and high school students. The impact that FIRST has achieved is incredible and that is why we want to leave seeds, seeds of change, that grow and inspire new generations to create future leaders.

### #IMAGINE GREEN EFFECT

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the Heart". This incredible phrase describes all the seasons that we have been volunteers and that together with other categories we have been present in more than 25 FIRST events in only 7 years. In which we have had the opportunity to be Team Queuings, Crowd Controls, Referees, Field Resets, Pit Announcer, MC, MCA, Commentarist and even Judges in all categories of FIRST with presence in regional, national and FIRST CHAMPIONSHIP. And that thanks to this has allowed us to have the opportunity to also be in FIRST GLOBAL, as is the case of one of our Lead Mentors Santiago Mesta who has participated in 4 FGC, in MEXICO CITY 2018 as Technician, DUBAI 2019 as Diplomat, 2020 and 2021 ONLINE as Judge. Showing that we have succeeded in helping to fulfil the dream of thousands of children and young people in the wonderful world of FIRST, thus creating a green effect in their hearts and teaching them that they will always have someone to support and motivate them under a green cap or wearing a green t-shirt.

### #IMAGINE REACHING FRONTIERS

We have always believed that an eagle is capable of overcoming any frontier, migrating with our ideas to other places and countries, a clear example of this is the case of the robotics student chapter "ASME ITL" of the Tec NM Campus La Laguna in which +10 alumni have been involved and have participated in the competitions of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) in a variety of E-Fests, EFX and international engineering festivals in countries like Colombia, Brazil, USA, and above all Mexico, where in many of them they have been champions in the SDC and HPVC categories, enabling them to repeatedly obtain passes to the International Mechanical Engineering Congress & Exposition (IMECE), including 4 in a row (2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018). Esmeralda Medina also won first place in the humanities and social sciences category and the highest score of the entire fair, earning her a place at the Mexican Science and Engineering Fair 2022.

Finally, we created the DAYS SERVICE, an alliance formed with the teams 8105, 8291 and 6832 in order to support each other and other teams around the world as together collecting data from all these members and we have managed to help, mentor or start more than 100 teams worldwide and hoping that year by year this figure will increase.

### #IMAGINE YOU

Thank you; thanks to you who always trusted us, showing us that the word impossible has two letters too many and that without you none of this would have been possible. We still don't know what will happen in the future but we are sure that with your support we will achieve great feats, turning you and us into seeds of change, creating that world without borders that we dream of and that the only limit is that of your imagination; we want you to continue being part of our history to continue working together as a team and thus demonstrate to the world that more than a team, we are a big family.