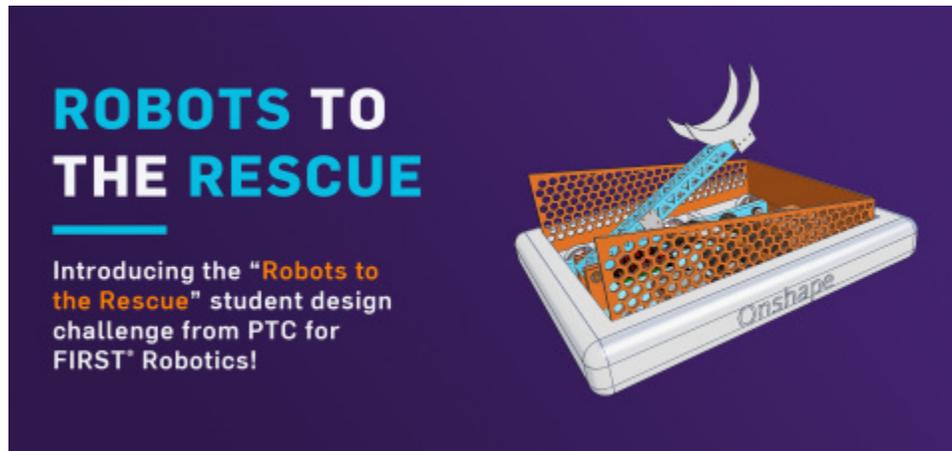# PTC to Sponsor Global Design Competition, "Robots to the Rescue"

April 2, 2020

FIRST Teams Worldwide Invited to Compete, Use Onshape to Solve a World Problem

BOSTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Apr. 2, 2020-- In response to the suspended *FIRST*® season caused by COVID-19, PTC (NASDAQ: PTC) is inviting *FIRST* teams around the world to compete virtually in its design competition, Robots to the Rescue, in which teams will be challenged to design a robot that can solve a current real-world problem.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here: https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20200402005787/en/

FIRST is a robotics community that prepares young people for the future. Each year, the global non-profit organization offers a suite of robotics competitions for students in grades PreK-12. These competitions provide participants with a sense of accomplishment and the understanding that they can do anything with their collective skills, leadership, and confidence. The experience they gain can positively impact their future and take them further than any other sport can. In mid-March, amid school closures and expanded travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 outbreak, *FIRST* announced the suspension of its current *FIRST* season.

PTC is inviting FIRST teams around the world to compete virtually in FIRST's design competition, Robots to the Rescue, in which teams will be challenged to design a robot that can solve a current real-world problem, using PTC's Onshape SaaS software. (Graphic: Business Wire)

Students are invited to design and compete virtually in Robots to the Rescue using Onshape® – the world's only pure Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) product development platform. Because Onshape is web-based, *FIRST* students can collaborate remotely while continuing to hone their engineering skills. As part of the six-week competition, *FIRST* teams*,* specifically *FIRST*® *Tech Challenge* and *FIRST*® *Robotics Competition* teams, will design a robot that can help solve a real-world problem such as providing food and supplies to people in remote places, or removing pollution from the atmosphere.

"This competition is an opportunity for *FIRST* students around the world to engage their interest in STEM and collaborate with one another virtually," said Jim Heppelmann, president and CEO, PTC. "With Onshape, students will use a robust CAD design solution that's powerful, easy to get started, and fun to use."

Onshape is used worldwide by thousands of professional and aspiring designers and engineers and is accessible from a wide range of devices, including Chromebooks, MacBooks, smartphones, and tablets. As a pure SaaS platform, there is no software installation required and no IT infrastructure to administer and maintain, allowing students to get started quickly and to collaborate remotely, innovate, and have fun.

"We're thrilled that PTC has made the Robots to the Rescue competition exclusively available to *FIRST* Tech Challenge and *FIRST* Robotics Competition students," said Ken Johnson, Director, *FIRST* Tech Challenge. "We know our participants will gain valuable knowledge through this experience, and it's a chance for them to virtually connect and problem-solve together during this time of social distancing. We're grateful to PTC for helping to make the competition possible this year, as well as for its continued support of *FIRST* over a long-standing relationship."

The competition launches on Friday, April 3. Students from around the world can register for the competition online here. For a complete list of rules and guidelines, please visit here. Both the competition and the use of Onshape are free to students.

Rockwell Automation, also a proud sponsor of *FIRST*, and with which PTC has a robust strategic alliance, is also supporting the competition.

Additional Resources:

- Blog: PTC and FIRST® Robotics Competition: Showing Students the Power of Augmented Reality

About PTC (NASDAQ: PTC)

PTC enables global manufacturers to realize double-digit impact with software that accelerates product and service innovation, improves operational efficiency, and increases workforce productivity. In combination with an extensive partner network, PTC provides customers flexibility in how its technology can be deployed to drive digital transformation – on premises, in the cloud, or via its pure SaaS platform. At PTC, we don't just imagine a better world, we enable it.

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