

## Week Five Update

Another week... another snow storm, but we didn't let Mother Nature get in our way. We have Team Paragon Spirit, nothing can stop us now! Despite our meeting being cancelled Monday, the team has accomplished a lot.



### *Imagery:*

With all of the voting completed, we have a name and image for the robot. ....Drumroll please! The new name is... OTIS! OTIS was chosen

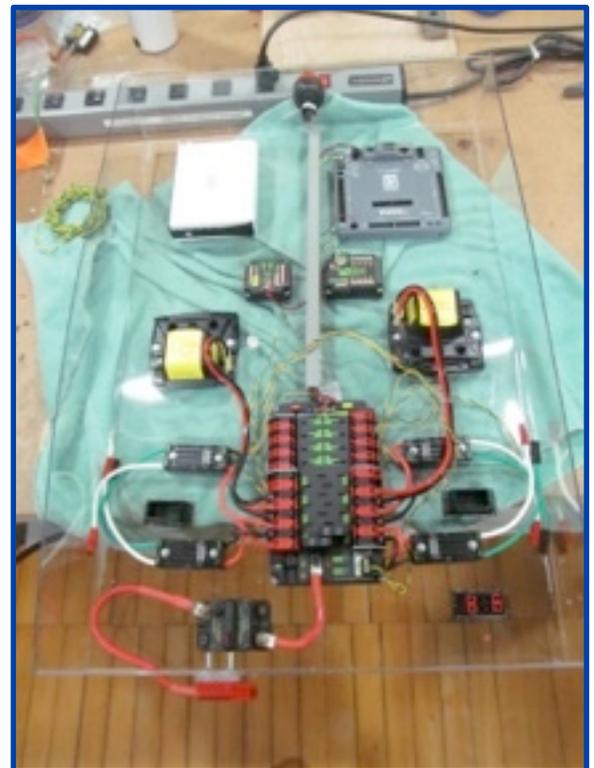


based on four reasons. First, our major sponsor is Otis Elevators. Second, in the theme of recycling, we brought back a genre from a former robot. Back in 2008 , we had Guido from Cars. In the Movie "Cars 2," one of the cars is named Otis, who showed strong determination. This is a great image, as we have a tow hook on

our robot that can pick up and tow totes. Thirdly, one of our mentors, Mr. Koenig, works at Otis Elevators. And lastly, our robot also has a functioning elevator on it that will be able to pick up and stack totes. Imagery had an emergency meeting this Wednesday due to the cancelation of Monday meetings. They accomplished a lot and made up for the days they have missed. They began to complete this year's Pit Book, named "Paragon's Bright Idea." Inside, it will have items that tell about the team and what we do: This includes pictures of the subgroups, community involvement events, team rules, our safety rules and the captains updates. Imagery has also started to personify the robot and make a license plate for it as well. With the name of the robot determined, time was spent creating more designs for this year's buttons. In other news, another mentor, Mrs. Smith, is working on a new mascot costume that will be more wearable for all members as well as pretty cool looking.

**Build:** The Electrapneumaquarium is under way. This week the team has started to work on the 2015

Electrapneumaquarium; GEN VIII. This funnily-worded item is a team staple and is built to make our robot look awesome; all while keeping are electronics and pneumatics organized and





removable from the robot. In between matches this will allow for easy work on the electronics/pneumatics if anything goes wrong. Of course imagery plans to utilize the Electrapneumaquarium in the design of OTIS. Build also put our new 3D printer to good use this week printing guides for

our winch which makes it so the string can't get tangled. The competition robot also has now been installed with gearboxes, motors and a compressor.



### ***Programming:***

Once again, programming encountered an error this week. If it's not last week's jaguar, then it's this week's gyro. First we had problems connecting

the gyro correctly. A gyro is what we use to tell the angle the robot is currently facing. This is helpful for autonomous when we have to spin to a certain degree to grab a tote, and bring it to the center. This gave us extremely large angle values of -4000 when we weren't moving.

Then, we realized the wiring diagram for configuring the gyro was backwards, so that caused problems with the angle not

reading correctly. Unfortunately, switching the ports did not completely fix the problem. Instead, the gyro kept drifting up or down. Programming has



been collecting data from the gyros and analyzing it to determine the problem.

### ***Drive Team Selection:***

Drive team testing is progressing with candidates completing tests and practicing the game. The drive team consists of a driver, an operator who will manipulate the game pieces, a coach to coordinate the driver & operator with the actions of our alliance partners, and a human player to introduce game pieces to the playing field. With the drive team selected and having a functioning practice bot, there will be time for drive practice before Suffield Shakedown.



Congratulations go out to Team Blazing Paranormals, for their success at



Saturday's Loomis Chaffe Shakedown FTC competition in Windsor, CT. They won the connect award, which is for the teams that connect with their local community and engineering community. This is especially for teams who visit schools and enhance the growth of future engineers. We also got third place in the think award, which is for the

teams engineering notebook. The award gave them a chance to compete at states on March 7th in Westport, CT.

Now here is your weekly forecast: Snow, snow, and more snow. However, that won't deter Team Paragon! Even though the snow has forced the cancelation of many meeting, Team Paragon is determined and has figured out ways to make them up. With one week left, we are looking pretty good.

Please remember to go online at WINPUT and vote for Team Paragon to continue to have a home at our current build site. If you have an opinion of what should happen to Roger Wolcott, the visit this page here: [Survey](#)

**From the Captains: ~ Matt & James**

**You can follow Team Paragon on**

[www.teamparagon571.org](http://www.teamparagon571.org)

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***Upcoming Events:***

2/14/15 - Suffield Shakedown

2/17/15 - Ship Day

3/6/15 - 3/7/15 - New England District Pioneer Valley Event Competition

3/28/15 - 3/29/15 - New England District Hartford Event Competition