

# team COMBUSTION 1912

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Northshore High School  
Slidell, Louisiana

## THE INFERNO

### Upcoming Events

- Veteran's Day Parade

When: November 6

Where: Slidell—parade

- Slidell City Cleanup

When: November 12

Where: Around the Slidell area

- Lego League State Competition

When: December 12

Where: Holy Cross High School

- Kickoff

When: January 7

Where: Stennis Space Center

- Jumpstart

When: January 14

Where: QinetiQ

### Team Combustion Dips Its Toes into New Waters

Team Combustion has started doing something very new this year – Zero Robotics. Zero Robotics is a programming competition in which high school students compete, under the guidance of a few mentors, by programming miniature satellites called SPHERES. These SPHERES move around in a complex game where students have to figure out the best strategy to get points and win games. This is the first year Zero Robotics is open to the general public, and eighty-five teams answered from across the nation by entering into the tournament. Teams progress through several rounds, ending in a final match on the International Space Station! In this year's game, Astero-SPHERES, there are deadlines not to be



missed, hours to meet with the team and work, and code to be created, compiled, simulated, edited, shared, and submitted. With so many things going on at once, we are rewarded with valuable skills of all sorts: time management, work ethic, teamwork, and science and math-related abilities. However, this is still a competition very similar to FIRST's coopertition style. Thus, we will strive for the best as each team hopes to see its program used on a SPHERE in space! Also, during this off season time, Team Combustion is once again doing beta

testing. This will be our third year, and this time, we were lucky enough to be a Beta Test Team in both LabVIEW and hardware. About 50+ teams were chosen for beta testing, and twelve (including us) were selected for hardware. We will run through a series of given tasks, trying to find and fix bugs as we find them. That way, problems can be fixed before the software/hardware is released to all teams on kickoff. So far, the big thing is going to be dealing with the new Xbox Kinect this year. We learn a lot about the new controls system and use this knowledge to help mentor our fellow first friends in the area. All in all, we have dipped our toes into new waters, are still doing beta testing, and continue to advance and promote science and technology.

## WHO WE ARE

Northshore High School's FIRST Robotics Team, located in Slidell, Louisiana, was established in the fall of 2005 by a small group of students. Over the many years of its existence, it has grown from a group of seniors into a family of students of all grade levels and mentors devoted to our cause. When our team was initiated, we lived according to the principles designed by FIRST; thus, every student who went through the program left with the values originally instituted by its founders. Throughout the condensed time period of this overwhelming task, students are meant to develop their teamwork skills, dedication to a goal, communication with one's teammates and others, and perseverance to pursue the impossible. At Northshore, this is exactly what our students experience.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE:  
[WWW.TEAM1912.COM](http://WWW.TEAM1912.COM)



CONTACT US:  
[COMBUSTION@TEAM1912.COM](mailto:COMBUSTION@TEAM1912.COM)  
AND FOLLOW US ON  
FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

## LOOKING FOR MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Team Combustion is in need of mechanical engineering mentors. As a mentor, you can assist us in building and designing our robot. Our main season is a six week period between January and February. Contact us at our email and visit our website.



FOR MORE INFO, GO  
TO:  
[WWW.USFIRST.ORG](http://WWW.USFIRST.ORG)



## Team Combustion's Busy and Rewarding Summer

During the summer of 2011, Team Combustion once again set out to volunteer, as there really is no true offseason for us. We demoed at various places for children, like the First Baptist Church and the Fit as a Firefighter Camp. We also have an "Ignition Team" that "ignites" other schools and helps them out throughout the year – setting up Jr. FLL, FLL, and FRC teams. The goal of our "Ignition Team" is to create a community of strong and stable FRC teams. Furthermore, during the summer is the perfect time to thank sponsors. Therefore, Team 1912 goes around to facilities thanking sponsors and corporations of all sorts with plaques, demoing for them, and presenting them with what we have done during the year thanks to their wonderful support. Additionally, we volunteer at events that are non-STEM related. For instance, over the summer, we volunteered at the Special Olympics, helped restore the marsh in New Orleans for our second year, and at the Hospice Foundation's Crawfish Cook-off. Also, the summer is a great time to train students. So, our team hosted animation classes twice a week for about 6 weeks, Autodesk Inventor classes, and trained at a NASA one-day camp in order for us to help children during the Cypress Cove CSI Summer Camp. Sadly though, summer is over, but for Team 1912, the learning never stops!