Plan your field trip to the Caterpillar Visitors Center!

On Saturday, November 1, 2014, the Caterpillar Visitors Center unveiled a structure (multi-terrain track loader), designed and built by Caterpillar sponsored, FIRST Robotics Team (FRC), Robot Casserole, two mentors and two Caterpillar engineers.

The structure is constructed from non-perishable food items, donated by Kroger. It will be on display at the Caterpillar Visitors Center throughout the month of November as part of the CityLink Stuff-a-Bus Campaign, benefiting the Peoria Friendship House of Christian Service.

The three evenings of construction have been captured in a time-lapse video. Watch the video.

** The Caterpillar Visitors Center is a drop off location for the Stuff-a-Bus Campaign food drive throughout the month of November. Visitors who donate receive $1 off admission.

For detailed information on planning your field trip and free learning tools to complement your visit, please visit our website at www.caterpillar.com/visitors-center (click on Educator Resources).

For questions or if you would like additional assistance in scheduling your trip, please call Mary Blum at (309) 675-9494 or email Blum_Mary_A@cat.com.

Hours of Operation
Monday—Saturday
10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
*Last entry is at 3:30 p.m.
Caterpillar supports the next generation of STEM talent

Caterpillar employs more than 10,000 engineers, scientists and technologists around the world. These individuals innovate at a rapid pace, developing and delivering solutions that differentiate our products, create customer value and help us remain competitive within the global marketplace. To continue this pace of innovation, the company needs a sustainable pipeline of talent in the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields so Caterpillar is an enthusiastic supporter of STEM initiatives that inspire student interest in technical fields from an early age.

One such initiative is For Inspiration and Recognition in Science and Technology (FIRST), an organization that provides global, mentor-based programs to help students of all ages build STEM skills. Caterpillar’s relationship with FIRST began in 2005, with the company’s initial sponsorship of 10 teams. The company now sponsors nearly 200 teams located in the U.S., UK, India, China, Chile, Italy. These teams include:

◊ 30 FIRST Robotics Challenge (FRC) teams - Teams of students 14-18 years of age compete by conceptualizing and building working robots with limited resources and very strict rules.
◊ 20 FIRST TECH Challenge (FTC) teams - Teams of students 12-18 years of age compete by designing and programming simple robots.
◊ 140 FIRST LEGO League (FLL) teams - Teams of students 9-14 years of age compete using LEGO building blocks. Students apply math and science to create solutions to real scientific problems.

The company’s support of FIRST doesn’t stop at team sponsorships. More than 800 Caterpillar employees lend their time and expertise as mentors and chaperones for FIRST programs each year.

“Many students that participate in FIRST go on to pursue STEM degrees,” said Chief Technology Officer Gwenne Henricks. “We have a number of them that come to work for Caterpillar following their graduation – and they continue their involvement with FIRST as mentors once they get here. It’s inspiring to see.”

You will find additional information at USFIRST.org.
The tradition of manufacturing at Caterpillar has stood the test of time for nearly 90 years. Many of the tried and true tools and processes that date back to the 1920s still have a home in the modern factories of the 21st century—as does our standard of quality.

The exhibit features a film celebrating two employees each with 65 years of service to Caterpillar, a digital photo album containing more than 60 photos, and seven cases of artifacts showcasing Caterpillar’s culture of safety, training, quality, employee recognition—and the processes that ensure Caterpillar products are the best in the world.

We invite you to take a look at nearly 90 years of manufacturing at Caterpillar as we celebrate the thousands of production workers - the people who create the yellow iron - with our Manufacturing Tradition’s exhibit. The exhibit will be open October 2014—February 2015.

Contact Us:
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