

## News Release

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### Park Air Shaping the City

Jan. 11, 2020 – Over 100 students participated in the *FIRST LEGO League City Shaper*, Lincolnshire regional tournament held at Park Air Systems Limited, a Northrop Grumman company, in Market Deeping. Now in its fifteenth year the league is focused on global science and technology for children between 9 and 16 years old, helping them to develop key skills for future careers.

The league promotes science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) skills development with the goal to bring these skills to life and demonstrate their value in society.

With teams from across the region in attendance; 26 staff at Park Air volunteered to work with the engineers of tomorrow at their facility and demonstrate how these skills can lead to exciting careers in engineering and technology industries. With its highest attendance yet, students from three primary and nine secondary schools have participated in this year's challenge.

Teams designed a robot to complete missions under the theme of architecture and the spaces we live in. Each were judged on a number of core topics: design, problem solving, teamwork, and their robots' ability to complete missions.

Each robot is an individual design, and is the result of months of hard work and dedication. The teams must demonstrate their engineering skills by completing as many missions as possible within two and a half minutes, then make a range of presentations not only to a panel of judges but to other Lego League teams.

“These STEM initiatives are great at bringing people together and helping youth develop essential engineering skills from a young age. The enthusiasm we've seen today is only a glimpse of the effort to goes in to each of these projects, and we are proud to support the league and host this tournament for the 5<sup>th</sup> time” said Fiona Thompson, managing director, Park Air Systems, Northrop Grumman.

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Winners from this tournament will go on to participate in the England and Wales national final competition, University of West of England Exhibition and Conference Centre, Bristol, on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, against 65 other teams from across England and Wales. If successful, they will move on to the World International finals, held in the U.S.A.

Notes to editor:

Teams participating this year came from:

- The Deepings School
- Market Deeping Community Primary School
- South View Community Primary School
- Ken Stimpson Community School
- Spalding Grammar School
- Spalding High School
- Ormiston Bushfield Academy
- Kettering Science Academy

Park Air Systems Limited supplies communication systems for airspace operations worldwide. Sapphire ATM communications systems are now installed in more than 50 countries, helping air navigation service providers transitioning into the digital future. In its more than 50 year history, Park Air has sold 60,000 radios in 180 countries around the world.

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