

and shrapnel out.

There was only one day left before the bots debut at the Schiele Museum back in July, so I quickly put together a wedge using two chunks of 1/2" nutstrip, some UHMW, and a sheet of 1/16" 7075 aluminum. This was attached to the bot using a short length of 1/4" titanium rod. This was a tight fit in the holes and I thought it would

hold up alright, but combat was to prove otherwise. The bot — now named Trilobite — was ready to go (**Figure 13**).

The bot performed reasonably well at the event. The wedge proved more a hindrance than a help as it kept getting stuck under the bumpers and the axle came loose. The bot was thrown about by both Weta and Grande Tambor but it

suffered no more than a few scratches. A better wedge and some snowplow type attachments are needed, but I think it will perform well at its first big test at the Franklin Museum in October.

Kits of the chassis will be available from www.kitbots.com by the time you read this. I hope they help newbies get a good start in the sport. **SV**

BUILD REPORT:

A Team Building Exercise

● by Pete Smith

My Kitbots bot hockey team "Team Scotch Pies" had competed in one event and taken part in a couple of demonstrations, but the bots were retasked for a summer camp and were less than ideal. The bots were four wheel drive, but only used two cordless drill motors and they only weighed 8 lbs each (rather than the allowed 15 lbs). It was clear when they first met other custom-built hockey bots that they were simply outclassed.

A planned demonstration at the Durham Museum of Life and Science in March '11 gave me the impetus needed to build a new fleet of competitive bots.

To save time, I used as many standard Kitbots parts and familiar processes as I could. The finished design (**Figure 1**) uses template routed polycarbonate panels joined to together with my 3/8" nutstrip and four 18V cordless drill motors in the budget motor mounts, plus 3" Colsons with the standard hubs. The top and bottom are identical as are the two sides and the front and rear panels. This reduced the number of templates required and the work

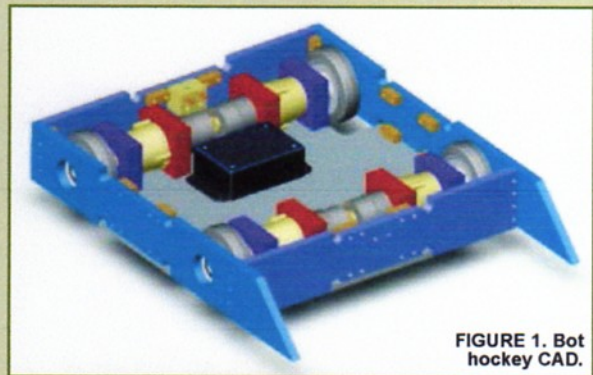


FIGURE 1. Bot hockey CAD.

setting each one up. The top and bottom are 1/4" thick while the sides are 3/8".

The watercut templates were ordered from www.teamwhyachi.com and once they

FIGURE 2. Routing out the bot hockey top panel.

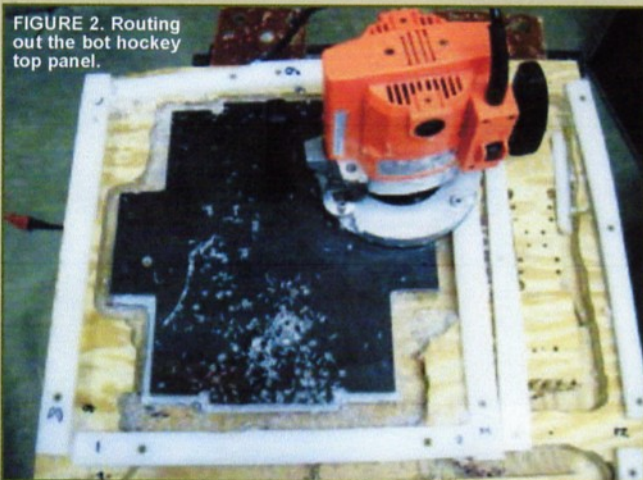


FIGURE 3. Routing out the bot hockey side and front rear panels.

