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The Chicago Robotic Combat Association Goes Berserk with Mecha-Mayhem at the 2007 iHobby Expo

CHICAGO—In 2007, the Chicago Robotic Combat Association is gearing up to bring the action-packed spectacle of world-class robotic combat to the Chicago area and the Midwest. The CRCA aims to become the first major robotic combat organization in Chicago, and to develop its signature event, Mecha-Mayhem, into one of the foremost robotics competitions in the country.

Mecha-Mayhem 2007 will be the premiere of an annually recurring international extravaganza of robot builders, electronics enthusiasts, and mainstream audiences enjoying the exciting pastime of competitive robotics.

The CRCA is collaborating with the Hobby Manufacturers Association's iHobby Expo and Synergy Robotics Entertainment to produce Mecha-Mayhem 2007, slated for October 20-21. The iHobby Expo is the international showcase for the newest electronic hobbyist technology, models, and valued miniature collectables. Running this year from October 18-21 at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Illinois, the HMA's iHobby Expo is now in its 23rd year, with a projected attendance of more than 20,000 for 2007.

Synergy Robotics Entertainment was created by Charles Arnold and Deb Holmes to support and promote robotic combat events. Arnold and Holmes previously organized events for the Robot Fighting League, which sanctioned and standardized robotic competition internationally. They have overseen the RFL's 2006 National robotics competition, Triangle Nationals in 2003, the BattleBots Rochester Robot Rampage in 2005, and the NPC Charity Open in 2004.

The CRCA is actively seeking sponsors for Mecha-Mayhem 2007, to provide its competitors and audiences with the finest exhibition of this exhilarating spectacle. Sponsors of Mecha-Mayhem 2007 will receive outstanding publicity and image enhancement from a partnership with such a cutting-edge entertainment and educational display. For more information on how to help support the CRCA and establish Mecha-Mayhem as an exciting major competitive robotics event, contact the CRCA for an official sponsorship kit or visit its Website at www.thecrca.org.

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About the CRCA: The CRCA was founded by Brian Schwartz and Dave Miller in 2005, and has assisted in running robotic combat events both locally and regionally. The CRCA's founder, Brian Schwartz, has been deeply involved in robotic competitions for more than eight years. He has advised robotics construction at Glenbrook North High School near Chicago and assisted in the production of the Minnesota Twin Cities MechWars 8, 9, and 10 in 2005-2007.

CRCA's cofounder Dave Miller has competed for the past three years in robotics competitions, is a machinist technology and CAD/CAM instructor, and has assisted running and organizing robotic combat events for several years.

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