



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 11/08/04

## **The Golem Group Returns To DARPA Grand Challenge**

The Golem Group announced that it would participate in the 2005 DARPA Grand Challenge for Autonomous Ground Vehicles. The Golem Group is an independent group of engineers in Southern California who built an autonomous robot pickup truck for the 2004 Grand Challenge.

The Golem Group was the dark horse entry of the 2004 Grand Challenge. It was placed in the second-to-last starting position and its name was not even spelled correctly on the event's official souvenir T-shirts. But like the protagonist of a heartwarming summer movie, the Golem 1 robot vehicle defied expectations by traveling 5.2 miles autonomously, and was the last vehicle to be disabled. This was the fourth-place finish by distance traveled, but closer to first place than to fifth place. In fact, Golem 1 traveled a greater distance than the next eleven robot vehicles combined.

In 2005, the Golem Group will be working together with the University of California at Los Angeles. Members of the Golem Group are assisting with the UCLA autonomous vehicle engineering courses CS194 and CS269.

Sponsors who have assisted the Golem Group's two-year effort include BEI Technologies, Federal Signal Corporation, Indigo Systems, Kenyon Labs, OmniSTAR, National Instruments, Nick Pace, and Prime Resource, Inc.

***Contact:***

Richard Mason  
(626) 399-4657