

Rocketry Logbook



We strongly recommend each team keeps a logbook throughout their rocket building process. You may be asked to present your logbook during the National Final or International final. The logbook can help you prove:

- A chronological order of your work
- Exact details and dates of formation
- Diligence in putting your invention to practice
- Details regarding the structure and operation of your invention
- Experimentation observations and results
- Other work details

Engineering logbooks are used by aerospace engineers, research institutions, government laboratories and many other organisations. A good engineering logbook details the entirety of an engineering project, from the initial concept designs to the fully operational system. A well designed logbook should allow a person familiar with the contest and rocketry to follow your design process from beginning to end and successfully reproduce a copy of your rocket at any stage in your design cycle. The logbook should be a running record of your design process, compiled as you go through the design process rather than retrospectively.

In some cases the settlement of an intellectual property dispute may come down to the records contained in an engineering notebook. As a result, engineers don't ever white-out material in their notebook or remove pages. If you make a mistake, don't worry about it. Simply place a single line through the error and continue below. Likewise, when you finish an entry place a large X on the remainder of the page to prevent new content from being added to the notebook after the fact. While we don't expect any of your rockets to get involved in a patent dispute, we still want you to practice the standards used within the aerospace industry. They may come in handy some day!

Examples of logbooks can be found below:

<https://3384f12d0l0tjlik1fcm68s-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Sunnyvale-Blue-Notebook-Redacted-optimized.pdf>

<https://3384f12d0l0tjlik1fcm68s-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Frog-Pond-Aeronautics-Notebooks-Redacted-optimized.pdf>