As a result of a fire at the Cesaroni plant in March, 2016, subsequent production issues have forced us to modify the requirement to use only Cesaroni motors for the 2016-2017 Space Grant Midwest High Power Rocket Competition. We are relaxing the competition motor requirements and will now allow the use of solid fuel reloadable and single use motors from other manufacturers besides Cesaroni, including AeroTech, Loki Research, and Gorilla Rocket Motors. Note that any combination of motors may be selected from the same or different manufacturers for the I-and-J or the J-and-K motor combination your team decides to use in the competition.

However you should be aware that the use of motors from each manufacturer requires the use of that manufacturer's hardware (such as motor casings and closures), since the hardware is not compatible between them. The one exception is that the 54mm and 75mm diameter Loki Research and Gorilla Rocket Motors hardware is interchangeable, which means that the 54mm and 75mm reloads from either manufacturer will work in the appropriate length case from both manufacturers. Be aware that motors from different companies need to be assembled in different ways and are (typically) more complicated than Cesaroni motors. (Work with your mentor to learn how to assemble the motors you select – motor assembly errors often lead to motor cato events!)

Note that AeroTech "single use" motors (AKA "the AeroTech disposable motor system") don't require external motor cases – they slide directly into the motor-mount tube and have a lip to keep them from going in too far (but they still require motor retention to keep them from coming out). Although such motors are easier to use, the selection of single use motors is more limited than reloadables in the sizes expected for this competition.

Please contact me with any questions. Remember that motor orders for the competition itself must be placed with me (and paid for, if the total cost exceeds the \$100 that the registration will cover) no later than March 10, 2017, in conjunction with submitting your PDR. Motors for test flights should be ordered even earlier – from a high-power rocketry vendor such as one who serves high-power launches in your part of the country.

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