The VEX life saver

By Miles Mabey

Vex Robotics changed my life. Without VEX I would be pursuing a career in who knows what. The first robot I ever saw inspired me to want to become a Robotic Engineer.

I bought books, tools, and everything I thought I would need, but all attempts ended in failure. Whether it was burned components, incorrect soldering or lack of power, it probably plagued my robots. When I was ready to give up and start pursuing an alternate career, my parents got me a subscription to *Robot* magazine. I read through the first issue like a madman. I read an article about the 2009 VEX Championship. VEX robots intrigued me with their erector set style. I found the proto-bot online. I decided to get the best kit with upgraded software. The total was $550. I didn’t have the money, so I started saving. My grandparents got word of this and offered to pay $400 of the $550 if I earned the other $150. This was more than I had ever saved in my entire life. So I worked and worked and in four months I was the proud owner of a VEX Proto-bot.

When I put the robot together and hit the “on” switch I was anxious. All other robots had failed, would this one? The robot came to life and was soon rolling around the house. I have made many robots and I have only had it less than a year. Thanks VEX Robotics for saving my preferred career.