Helpfulness

Thanks to VEX I have acquired a couple new skills that I never thought I would possess: using CAD software and programming. No one on our team had ever used CAD before, but we had heard it was very helpful. So, I went looking around the internet for information. The helpful folks on the forums told me that engineers had already made CAD models of all the VEX parts and informed me that Autodesk Inventor was the software tool I wanted. I then found a helpful set of YouTube videos (made by another very friendly VEX student) outlining how to use Inventor to design a VEX robot. With all this information I was able to CAD our robots and introduce this software to my fellow team members.

 Before VEX I never really had any interest in programming and assumed that it was way too complicated for me. However, our team’s programmers assured me that it was not too difficult and that I could pick up on it pretty quickly. So, I again turned to the forums, downloaded PROS, watched some programming videos on YouTube, and looked at the code our programmers had written. With their help I was able to have a working program written in a week. Throughout my experiences with VEX I have been amazed by the willingness to help of other participants. They’re always looking for opportunities to help out inexperienced members, and they go out of their way to make learning as easy as possible.