

The VEX Experience From The Robot

I sit on my starting tile. My pneumatics are charged, VEXnet is connected, and everything is ready to go.

Countless hours have gone into this moment. First the strategy meetings, then came sketches of me, followed by some CAD models. From there, it all started to come together. Plenty of time was taken to ensure I was built with quality, and care was taken so there weren't many mistakes.

As a wise man once said, "life is iterative", and that certainly applies to mine. The building phase ends, we move onto testing and driver practice, and then a fault is found. We go back to the building phase, fix the fault, and continue once again. That doesn't just happen with the building too – but designing, programming autonomous routines, and most importantly, the team overall. New members join, they train up, help others, and move on with the knowledge and life skills VEX has given them.

There have been highs and lows – with me and my team. Some days I will operate perfectly, and it's a good day for all. Other days, things need repairing. It is like that with my team-mates too. Some days everyone will get along, other days there may be some strong disagreements of sorts. But ultimately, we all move on through it, as we are all in this together. We are all learning to build and cooperate through this together. And we are certainly all in this moment now, together.

“Autonomous in Three, Two, One...”