Title:  Google site for educational resources for VEX VRC new competition teams

Members:

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Team Number: 980S

Location: Taichung, Taiwan

IRHS Chapter name:

IRHS Chapter location: <https://sites.google.com/view/skywalker-robotics> or shorter link to the same google site <https://site.skywalker.best/>

This season our focus was to create a website and a google site with everything we have done and learnt in the past seasons. In our website, we have our team history as well as our educational videos and useful resources that will help new teams mature more smoothly. For us, this is still an ongoing project and we plan to make more tutorial videos in the future.

Our background is more like cross cultural between New Zealand and Taiwan, thus, we have the privilege to observe the difference, strength, and weakness in these two regions. While we immigrated to New Zealand in 2015, we were lucky to be the 1st top team representing New Zealand to the VEX Worlds and FLL World Festival as Chinese immigrants from 2018-2020. So we promoted several mainstream STEM competition resources to our Chinese community in Auckland.

Due to the pandemic, we moved back to Taiwan in late 2020 and had a challenging season. While moving 2 countries, 3 cities, 3 schools and 3 teams in a season, there was a happy ending that our NZ community team 3168S we helped out and Taiwan PAS school team 96969Y we helped out all brough back VEX LRS awards and ourselves won division 1 LRS sportsmanship award and 26th world ranking. During this process, we noticed that Taiwan teams are weaker in the structural design and CADing skills, and NZ teams are weaker in the programming parts.

After we discussed the NZ national manager Janet, she told us that there are many new teams joining in the new seasons, any help is a good help. We also discussed with our previous school club teacher and he likes some assistance programming tutorials. Furthermore, from 2019-2021, we also received a lot of mentoring remotely ( no matter in Auckland or in Taiwan) from our NZ top VEX VRC alumni, Mr. Lachlan Davidson (240P). So we also continuously help out our new community teams 81319A, 3168S,3168X, 3168T together with Mr. Jouveer Naidoo (2919A VEX alumni) through web meeting in Auckland.

Therefore, we decided to make these educational videos covering basic structural concepts, PROS programming, and Inventor CADing skills to help more new teams get into building a VEX competition robot faster. These videos will be in English but will also have Chinese subtitles to be able to help both English speaking communities and Chinese speaking communities as we have also found that Chinese robotics resources are hard to find compared to English ones. Hopefully, our efforts will help out new teams in both communities.

Our new members from Taiwan local school didn’t have experience to do such service-oriented project, and they didn’t realize that new teams might encounter some basic barriers like how to choose the wheels, how to build a robust robot or how to use a text-based programming etc. After this project, all the team members were happy to be able to share our knowledge with others and solve their problems. Through filming the tutorial video series and establishing the website, we can help more new teams without the boundaries of distance. At the completion of our service, we celebrated as a team with lots of pizza and listening to meme songs! We will continue to work on more videos, smash the subscribe button, leave a like and turn on your notifications so you never miss another video!

By Captain Henry Chen