

Components of A Successful Team

1 Introduction

Henry Ford once said, “Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is process, and working together is success.” In robotics, everyone always focuses on how well you can build and program, but even the easiest of tasks require something much more important, teamwork. Nothing can be accomplished alone, especially in something as complex as robotics. There are many elements of teamwork that contribute to the ending result of the robot. The most important components of a successful team are organization, communication, and the overall attitude of the team.

2 Organization

Organization is a key point to keeping a team running properly and to staying on task. Without organization, almost everything would be twice as difficult and frustrating. There are two parts of organization, one being the tidy placement of equipment in kits, and the other is team structure. Without these a team would be chaotic, no one would know where to find anything, and the team itself would be disorderly. The team members would not know who to listen too, and there would be many pointless arguments. When kits and other storage areas are clean and orderly, groups work better. This is because everyone knows where all parts are and where to put things to avoid the loss of parts. It is important to keep labels on things and have a layout of kits and storage areas that all team members must follow. This will also avoid conflict over lost tools and robot parts.

The other side of organization is team structure. There should always be a head of the group that does not dictate it but keeps the different parts of a team cooperating and communicating. Team members will be assigned a robot or other job such as documentation or organisation. Within the groups working on robots, the members will be split into programmers and builders. The programmers and builders assigned to a certain robot’s main priority is that robot and its success. All team members can give input but will mostly stick to their given assignment. Organization is one of the main factors of a successful team.

3 Communication

Another addition to a team is communication. Communication is the fundamental component to any team. To build a robot, organize a team, solve disputes, there must be proper and professional communication between team members. Proper communication consists of gathering ideas and opinions from all team members before making drastic changes. Taking input and applying constructive criticism will prevent any member from being left out. Having group meetings is very productive.

4 Attitude

One of the most important contributions to the favorable result of a team is the team's overall attitude. Having a positive outlook can change the outcome of the team. To have a successful group, everyone has to be able to work coherently with one another to forge a productive environment.

5 Conclusion

As previously stated, the key factors to create a successful team include coordination, interaction, and the team's total demeanor. Organization is very important because it keeps everything regulated. Communication is critical because it allows the team to convey thoughts to each other. Having a positive attitude is crucial to prevent disputes, and to stay on task. As long as you are able to successfully execute these three procedures, your team will be successful.

6 References

1. Henry Ford. "Coming Together is a Beginning; Keeping Together is Progress; Working Together is Success. - Henry Ford at BrainyQuote." BrainyQuote. Accessed June 14, 2015. <http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/h/henryford121997.html>

