

Reflection Paper 3

Introduction

Since I first stated in my last paper that some days will be busy and others will be more relaxed, it has been nothing but busy for me over these last few weeks. As my time as an intern at Brooks Crossing Innovation Lab is drawing to a close, I am happy to say that even though the internship did not contain many aspects of Cybersecurity, I still feel that I was able to gain a wealth of knowledge in the STEM field.

Tasks

At the start of the last 50 hours of my internship, I was first tasked (along with two other interns) to figure out what was wrong with one of the laser wood cutters that is at the lab. We were able to come to the conclusion that the problem was with the CPU, so we were quickly able to get our hands on a replacement. However, we ran into one small problem: the laser cutter contains multiple different CPUs. We had to reach out for support from Trotec, the company that makes the laser cutters, and they were able to precisely tell us which CPU needed to be replaced and where exactly it was. We were able to get it replaced, and sure enough, the laser cutter was up and running again. Another much simpler task that we were given was to assemble small robot cars for an upcoming makerspace event, where anyone can come in and explore what the innovation lab has to offer. One last task that we were given was to take some 3D printers that were stored away in a closet and get them to work again. We were able to hook them up and connect them to the printing software, so now the lab has plenty of functional 3D printers.

Takeaways

I feel that I was able to learn a lot from completing this internship. For one, the ability to collaborate with other interns who come from a wide range of STEM disciplines helped me in learning a lot of new things, as well as being able to tell them things about my discipline. I am also glad that I was able to develop some professional experience for when I take my next step into working full-time in Cybersecurity.



VEX IQ Simple Clawbot, I built a couple more of them with other interns.