###### **1.1 Our Story**

###### Team #11142 Robo Minions Rebooted is a rookie FTC Team consisting of 10 students studying in Eight, Seventh and Sixth grades and is a neighborhood team located in Bettendorf, IA. All middle schoolers, have participated in FLL for the past two to three years, maintaining themselves as an team and have moved onto FTC this year. This year’s challenge, Velocity Vertex, has pushed the Minions to explore more about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

###### This season, the Robo Minions started with a few training sessions with FTC team Winter soldiers. The senior and highly-experienced team showed the Minions the basic building skills they needed in order to make a functioning robot.

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###### **1.2 Our FIRST Journey**

###### Team 11142 Robo Minions have been involved in the FIRST programs for several years now. Many members have participated in Jr.FLL and almost all continued into FLL and now FTC. The Robo Minions were mostly known as an FLL team for two years ( Nature’s Fury and Trash Trek seasons).

###### In FLL, we advanced to the State Competition and received two awards for **Core Values** and **Project Research**, while receiving the **Champion’s Award twice** at the regional competition. We formed this team because our local junior high did not participate in FTC, and only participated in FLL. Through the help of sponsors, coaches, and mentors, we were able to use the ALCOA Learning Center for our team meetings, and buy the necessary items for our participation in the 2016-2017 season. We immersed ourselves in the world of FTC, and bonded during our work in our Programming, Design, and Outreach micro-teams. We will not stop in creating a better world of young ones partaking in STEM. We strive as such and seek sponsorship so we can bring our efforts to a global perspective.

###### The Minions then took a leap from FLL to FTC. Gradually, their FIRST team grew until it became an FTC team of 10 intelligent, students from all backgrounds and schools. And in these past few months, from even before the beginning of the season and Kickoff, their team has continued to grow closer and more united as one. Now, as an FTC team, they are represented through QCESC, a nonprofit organization which inspires young students to partake in STEM.

###### Only in its first year, we already Mentored two other FLL teams and has put up an after-school coding class. One of our Mentored FLL team “Furry logic” is Advancing to Iowa state. They are proud to be run through a program of such determined people whom hold the same vision as them of a world run by young Students in STEM.

###### As a rookie FTC team we are still adjusting to the different technology but are enjoying the new experience all the same! Even though we have ran into many issues with the new technology, such as pairing issues and unplanned restarts, they have managed to debug the problems so they do not happen in the future. The Minions are excited about this year’s challenge, FIRST Velocity Vertex, and also discovering more about the new Android platform.

###### Their highly-capable coach and parent mentors come from all divergent occupations in obverses of engineering, business, manufacturing from companies such as Deere & Company, Alcoa (Arconic).

###### But what sets these not-so-Robo Minions is their great commitment and dedication toward FIRST. In fact, the Minions meet nearly every single day and began meeting and planning months before the season began and went straight to meeting once Kickoff had happened.

###### We leave no rock left unturned in their journey of achieving the most out of FIRST and STEM. One of the main strengths in the team is our ability to break off into specialty groups and concentrate to become an expert in that aspect. Be it robot building, programming, engineering notebook, we know themselves better than anyone else and are able to instinctively know their strengths and through teamwork, are able to put together all their expertise into FTC.

###### Sponsors have also been no problem for these Minions. We have over ten sponsors, ranging from **John Deere, Alcoa, PTC, Colo Hub, R3 Services, Cobham, QCESC, Icon Charitie, Mid American Energy, Axiom 3D, Yash Technologies** were proud to represent the Robot Minions.

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