

SIEMENS VDO
Automotive

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Knowing where the value is

Siemens VDO Automotive – Auburn Hills, Michigan. Test Center Senior Technician Paul Slaby embraces corporate responsibility with more than two caring hands. He volunteers hours of his time and skills to Siemens Caring Hands initiatives to help make a positive impact in the lives of others.



As Siemens VDO Automotive is committed to value – to our customers and the community – I’m just someone who knows where the value is,” said Slaby. “The importance of reaching out to young students and helping others in the community is essential and when you have a company as strong as ours, we can make good things happen.”

Slaby, who has been with the organization for more than 15 years, performs machining, welding and fabrication for all projects within the company. He has been involved in every major Caring Hands initiative the Auburn Hills, Michigan, location has undertaken since the initiative’s inception. For the last seven years, he has mentored the Siemens VDO Automotive-sponsored Rochester Hills Adams High School FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science Technology) Robotics Competition Team.

This year alone, Slaby has dedicated more than 500 hours mentoring, providing sup-

port and traveling to various competitions with the FIRST Robotics Team, also known as the Adam-Bots. Not only did he share pride in their accomplishments, he never let failure discourage them. “Mr. Slaby dedicates more time to our team than anyone else,” said Rochester Adams High School FIRST Robotics student Patrick Pannuto. “He actually takes the time to teach us how to use the tools and machinery to build a successful robot, which is unique because other teams send their robots to their mentors to be engineered.”

Some people might say that Paul Slaby has quite a following. As Slaby is truly committed to the Adam-Bots, the team is as equally committed to the Caring Hands initiatives that he champions. Slaby, along with five FIRST students participated in this year’s Engineer Week when they visited a Detroit Middle School to demonstrate the robot, while also sharing their math and science skills with the students.

In addition, Slaby recently served as the House Captain to the Auburn Hills location Rebuilding Together Program, which is a nationally recognized non-profit volunteer organization providing home repairs to low-income families, families with children and disabled homeowners. “Paul was the first person to offer his time to the Rebuilding Together Program,” said Dave Ladd, Siemens VDO Automotive Corp. Director of Corporate Communications. “We needed a skilled craftsman to spearhead our effort and we couldn’t have found anyone more qualified or willing to fill those shoes.”

For his past volunteer efforts, Slaby has received several Caring Hands Community Excellence Awards, which recognize Siemens employees who, on a volunteer basis, undertake outstanding and innovative community service projects. The awards consist of cash grants to qualified Section 501 (C) (3) charities selected by the winning teams. He recently won the 2004 President’s Award and received \$2,500 for the Rochester Adams FIRST Robotics Team.

Slaby, who lives in Howell with his wife, recently completed the major construction of their home, which they built from the ground up. Slaby proves that one inspired person can make a difference in the community and hopes to enlist other volunteers to help make a positive change in the community in which he works and lives. ■

Dedicated: Paul Slaby (front, 2nd from right) with the FIRST Robotics Competition Team.

