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\*\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\*

Three Northland teams competed at the FIRST Robotics World Championship in St. Louis, Missouri. The teams were Denfeld Nation Automation (DNA) Team 4009, Hermantown Talons Team 5232, and Esko SubZero Robotics Team 5690.

Denfeld Robotics had a strong round of qualification matches, ranking 36<sup>th</sup> in the Galileo division. DNA's powerful and accurate shot was noticed around the competition and their robot was selected by the 4<sup>th</sup> seed alliance for the playoffs along with teams 3539, 175, and 623. The team won a pair of hotly contested quarterfinals matches, but were not quite so lucky in the next round, eventually falling in a tough semifinal battle.

Hermantown Talons 5232 FIRST Robotics ended qualifying competition ranked 56<sup>th</sup> in the Hopper division. After going 2-7-1, but breaching defenses to gain the most defensive points in qualifying, the Talons were feeling optimistic at their chances of being selected in alliance selection. In the end they were not selected, but were very grateful for the entire experience in just their third year of existence.

Esko SubZero Robotics closed out their first trip to Championships ranked 38<sup>th</sup> overall in the Galileo Division with a record of 5-5-0. As a second year team, this trip to Championship exceeded all their expectations.

This was the first time each team attended this international event. Students not only competed with the robots they designed and created, they also made new friendships and gained valuable life skills. These three teams collectively represented Minnesota and the Northland very well and all are extremely grateful for all of the support from the sponsors and community that made this amazing experience possible. It was so much MORE THAN ROBOTS!<sup>SM</sup>



Picture left to right: Denfeld Nation Automation, Hermantown Talons, and Esko SubZero Robotics.