

# THE GLOBAL PITSCO NETWORK

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## TETRIX® Certification Program poised to help teachers teach robotics and coding



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Dear Partners,

In March 2018, we held our first Pitsco Robotics Certified Trainer course, which included a mix of Master Trainers and potential Teacher Trainers from the UAE, Russia, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, and the USA, as well as some Pitsco trainers and trainees.

One of the biggest concerns for teachers when it comes to implementing robotics in the classroom is how to make it relevant. This is especially true if the teachers don't know programming or robot building themselves. Our program is designed to combat these concerns, using specially developed workshops to equip teachers with the knowledge they need to effectively implement TETRIX® in their classrooms.

The Pitsco Robotics Certification Program is a three-tiered program that consists of Master Trainers who help guide the program, Certified Teacher Trainers who organize and facilitate workshops, and Certified Educators who attend the workshops and then take their new knowledge of TETRIX, robotics, and coding into the classroom. The program's ultimate goal is to create more advocates for TETRIX among our partners, teachers, and students.

### TETRIX EXCITEMENT IN AUSTRALIA

We recently saw the program in action, and we're very pleased with the results. June 3-4, Kookaburra and Pitsco joined forces to offer Australia's first Pitsco Robotics Certified Educator course using TETRIX PRIME and MAX. Led by Pitsco Robotics Application Specialist and Master Trainer Tim Lankford and Kookaburra Educational Resources National Sales Manager Justin Bielefeld, the course introduced teachers to the TETRIX building system, helped them get comfortable with hands-on robotics and coding, and gave them insight and tips for classroom applications.

Peggy Mangovski, head teacher of STEM at Cessnock High School in Australia, was so motivated by what she learned at the workshop that she went back to her classroom and immediately tried it out with her students. She then submitted a social media post of her students working with TETRIX, completing her certification requirements and making her the world's first Pitsco Robotics Certified Educator!

"As educators, sometimes it's very hard for us to find the time to be able to work through the problems that you may encounter when you're working with high-end robotics kits such as the [TETRIX] kits. So, having a

place to be able to come and work, and having access to people who can give you tips and tricks saves a lot of time. And you also get to work with like-minded people," said Mangovski.

Mangovski's social media post showcased her students comparing the TETRIX PRIME and MAX robotics kits and building their first robots, and you can read more about her experience in the accompanying article on page 2.



### LET'S REACH THEM ALL!

Mangovski was the first in what we hope to be a growing number of teachers implementing TETRIX across the globe. But we need your help! We currently have three external (international) and three internal (Pitsco) Master Trainers ready and willing to help you offer Pitsco Robotics Certification workshops in your area. We will introduce them more formally in future issues of *The Global Pitsco Network*, but here are the basics:

- **External Master Trainers:**
  - Rob Widger, UAE
  - Alex Voron, Russia
  - Alejandra Sanchez, Costa Rica
- **Internal Master Trainers:**
  - Aaron Locke, Curriculum Specialist
  - Tim Lankford, Robotics Application Specialist
  - Aubrey Vance, Educational Services Manager

If you are interested in having one of our Master Trainers come help you set up a workshop, or in becoming a Certified Teacher Trainer, please contact me at mabraham@pitsco.com.

Let's get TETRIX into the hands of all our students! 