

For Immediate Release:

Young Robotic Engineers Compete, Build and Collaborate at the 9th Annual SeaPerch Challenge

- *Harrington Middle School from New Jersey sweeps middle school awards and takes home the Overall Champion*
- *199 teams | 85 regional qualifiers | 38 U.S. states | 4 countries*
- *The SeaPerch Challenge was held at the University of Maryland, College Park, June 1-2, 2019*

COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND, June 7, 2019 — At the largest finals event in SeaPerch Challenge history, a middle school team from Harrington Middle School took home an award in every category in their middle school division including 1st Place in Obstacle and Mission Courses, 3rd in Engineering Design and Class Champion. The cherry on the top for this team's historic win, was winning 1st Place out of 199 teams and receiving the coveted Overall Champion Award. The Harrington Middle School team, named the HMS SeaBots, traveled from New Jersey to Maryland last weekend to compete at the 9th Annual SeaPerch Challenge.

Elementary, Middle and High School students gathered at the University of Maryland, College Park, June 1-2, 2019 to compete in RoboNation's 7th Annual SeaPerch Challenge. The competition requires student teams to build an underwater remotely operated vehicle (ROV) that must be able to maneuver successfully through an obstacle course and transport items in a challenge course. Teams compete in one of three class groups: Middle School, High School or an advanced group called "Open Class" and are scored on their performance in an obstacle course, mission course and engineering design. This year, the mission course was focused on rescue and recovery tasks inspired by the Thai cave rescue that captivated the world last year.

With a record number of teams and attendees, 199 and over 1,100 respectively, the focus was on community building and sharing best practices and winning of course. Teams came from all over the world including 38 U.S. states, U.S. Virgin Islands, British Virgin Islands, and New Zealand.

SeaPerch is an innovative underwater robotics program that equips teachers and students with the resources they need to build an underwater ROV in an in-school or out-of-school setting. After competing and winning first place at their local regional competition, teams are qualified for a spot in The SeaPerch Challenge finals. When students are not competing in the pool competition, they participated in Citizen Science, presented their Engineering Design, and shared best practices with other teams in their region.

[RAYTHEON QUOTE]

Raytheon Company, a technology and innovation leader specializing in defense, civil government and cybersecurity solutions, partnered with RoboNation to support the 2019 SeaPerch Challenge as the title sponsor. Sponsorships and local support from Raytheon, the U.S. Office of Naval Research, Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division Newport, MathWorks, Baltimore Police Divers and other volunteers made the competition a success.

A full list of competition results can be found at seaperch.org/2019_challenge.

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About RoboNation. RoboNation is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide a pathway of hands-on educational experiences that empower students to find innovative solutions to global challenges. We envision a world where technology unites people to learn, share and create.
(www.robonation.org)

For more information:

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