

# AutoTracing in the RoboMaster Program<sup>1</sup>

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## Tracing for a Print and Cut:

- (1) Start a new document.
- (2) To insert the image to trace:
  - If you need to scan your image, go to **Insert>Acquire** and your scanner software will automatically open. Scan the image as usual at a resolution of at least 300 dpi.
  - If the image is already saved as a file on your hard drive, go to **Insert>File** and browse to find the image file and then click on **Open**.
- (3) A blue empty rectangle will appear on the screen. Simply move it to the location you desire and then click once to have your image appear.
- (4) With the image selected, go to **Edit>Get Outline** or click on the green **Get Outline** button on the toolbar at the top. The **Auto Trace** window will open.
- (5) Depending on how much white space surrounds your image, you may need to scroll to locate it.
- (6) In general, with a Print and Cut you will probably check the **Outer Frame Only** box, unless you have interior parts of the image that need cutting.
- (7) Scroll the **Threshold** meter to fill the image with black, but only as much as you need.
- (8) Do not adjust the **Thickness** meter unless you want an offset/contour outline.
- (9) Click on **Convert to Outline** and examine the trace. Check **Show Background** and a monochrome version of your original image will appear and help you evaluate the accuracy of your trace.
- (10) Click on **Edit Image** and changes can be made to the settings and retraced.
- (11) The image can also be edited at this point:
  - Drag a node with the left mouse button to move it.
  - To delete a node, click on **Delete Break Point** and then click on the node to delete.
  - To add a node, click on **Add Break Point** and click on any path line.
  - Click on **Straight/Curve** and then you can convert a straight line path (green) to a curved path (blue) or vice-versa.

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- At any time, click on **Update** (or click on the arrow icon on the top toolbar) to close the current tool and be back in the initial edit mode.
- (12) Note other icons up on the top toolbar, including zoom and also a pencil and paint tool for modifying the raster image before tracing.
  - (13) When you are satisfied with the tracing, click on **Paste Then Exit**. You will return to the main RoboMaster window and your tracing and original image will be grouped and ready for the Print and Cut.

#### Tracing an Image when Original Will Not Be Needed:

- (1) You can also enter the **Auto Trace** window without first scanning or importing your image. In this case you go to **File>Load Image** or scan your image using **File>TWAIN>Load**. Proceed as before in tracing the image.
- (2) After invoking **Paste Then Exit**, note that the original image will be discarded, leaving only the tracing.

#### Additional Notes:

- (1) In the **Auto Trace** window, go to **File>Preferences**. You may wish to set some of the options for your convenience, such as the default folder for images, number of Undo steps available, etc.
- (2) If you need to close the program before you are finished editing a tracing, go to **File>Save Data** and your file will be save as a .gmk file. You can then open this file in the Auto Trace window at a later time and resume your editing.
- (3) For more information on using the auto trace features in RoboMaster, go to **Help>Help Topics** while in the **Auto Trace** window.