

## SPOTLIGHT STORY



Impact worker **Brennen Novak**  
Company **AutonomyWorks**  
Location **United States of America**

**Brennen works as an Associate at AutonomyWorks in Illinois, USA. AutonomyWorks offers companies high-quality marketing operations support, and leverages the unique talents of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).**

Before joining AutonomyWorks, Brennen had a part-time administrative job for an after-school program. However, the job was only for a few hours, three days a week, so Brennen spent much of his time at home, sleeping or playing video games. Having to rely on his parents and his brother made him feel like he was barely independent.

Brennen first heard about AutonomyWorks at a transition center. He attended a training course and, after learning technical and professional skills, was successful in getting a job as an Associate. Brennen recalled: "When I learned that AutonomyWorks was aligned with my skills, I wanted to work there. As I went through the Training Program and the Apprenticeship, my desire to work there only increased."

Brennen's work is now much better aligned with his skills. He downloads and organizes large amounts of data, such as impression share and daily price monitoring. With these data, he creates professional Excel reports to help clients make marketing decisions.

Brennen said: "I feel like I am the best person for the job because I am very quick at getting through my tasks while sustaining my accuracy of 100 percent."

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"Since I started at AutonomyWorks, I have been a lot more independent in my life. I have started paying for a car, providing for myself, and saving money in case of an emergency. I feel like I am valued at AutonomyWorks because as well as ensuring the quality of my own work, I help ensure the quality of some of the other associates' work. If I had to rate my value on a scale of 1 to 10, I would say I am at a 9."

Brennen concludes:

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I WANT PEOPLE TO KNOW THAT PEOPLE WITH AUTISM CAN GO THROUGH TRAINING AND STILL DO THEIR JOB AS WELL AS OR BETTER THAN SOME PEOPLE WHO DON'T HAVE AUTISM. WE HAVE ADVANTAGES LIKE BEING DETAIL-ORIENTED AND INDEPENDENT.

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Brennen is one of the new impact workers that AutonomyWorks has hired as part of its pledge to hire 50 new impact workers by the end of 2020, in response to the Global Impact Sourcing Challenge to companies to hire 100,000 new impact workers by the end of 2020.