

Bailey Proctor
March 25th 2015

Internship Summary: Skilled Manufactures Inc.

My internship was at Skilled Manufacturing Inc. (SMI) Aerospace Division. SMI has had a long-standing relationship with MTA and has taken many interns over the years. I first was introduced to the company through previous students' internship presentations. After meeting with my teacher, Mrs. Oliver, I chose to complete an Option Two 160 hours paid internship throughout the second semester of the school year and she gave me the information for SMI. I started working on Thursday November 4th and am currently still employed.

I was hired as a "document technician intern" to work in the engineering office. I was assigned to the head of document control Ms. Ashley Bassett; she and I are responsible for updating and creating work instructions for the machinists out on the shop floor. This is a relatively simple, but essential process. Making sure each operation has detailed instructions helps to ensure quality between shifts and different operators. To make a work instruction or a Best People Practices (BPP) as they're called at SMI, was a really valuable experience. I had to work closely with the machine operators themselves, as well as the engineers, to make sure the BPP's had the right dimensions and verbiage. Making BPP's gave a hands on experience with the parts and the process of how they are made. I had to take a lot of pictures and often worked with multiple people in different areas throughout the company.

After a couple weeks of work, I was introduced to Steve in the shipping department. He and I worked closely together where I learned logistics and how to use the laser part marking machine. He also taught me to make packaging foams with the foamer. To do this, you begin by laying a sheet of plastic over the mold and vacuum out the air making sure no part of the mold or the box it sits in is exposed. Then, you spray the liquid foam in all crevices and shut the box, clamping the lid. After a few minutes it hardens, eject the newly made foam, and set it aside to allow it to cool. Once cooled, the excess plastic is cut off. I was put in charge of making foams when needed for shipping. It allowed Steve to tend to making shipping labels forming boxes and packing the parts.

I really enjoyed my internship and still enjoy working at SMI Aerospace. It's really a remarkable company. I have learned a lot, have invaluable knowledge, and gained a lot of work experience that will stay with me through life. Below is a picture of my desk where I made the BPP's.

