

# José Ángel Rivera



**Age:** 24

**Job Title:** Industrial Engineer

**Company Name:** Molex, Inc.

**College/Degree or Certification:** Bachelor's in Industrial Engineer

**What does your company do?** Molex, Inc. is a really broad company. It is the second largest interconnect manufacturer in the world. Molex components are used in the automotive industry, washers, driers, I-pods, and many more. Millions of Molex products are used in everyday life.

**What attracted you to the company?** What attracted me to Molex was their commitment to their employees and customers. Molex understands that the manufacturing industry has radically changed. It is really hard to stay competitive. Multiple companies go to the extreme and close plants and let people go. Molex contemplates all available options before using extreme measures. Molex considers employees one of their most valuable assets.

**Please list some of your duties:**

- Maintain accurate bill-of-materials and routings in SAP.
- Create, maintain, and update databases derived from the shop floor system.
- Assist with fixed asset control, audits, and tagging.
- Conduct time studies when required.
- Develop hand assembly packaging solutions.
- Answer general costing questions.
- Maintain and update different financial reports.

**What are the best/most interesting things about your job?** The best part about my job is I not only get to practice my industrial engineering skills but I also get to use aspects of my business classes by keeping track of some finances within Molex.

**What is the most rewarding thing about your job?** Knowing that what I do is a very important part of Molex. If I don't do certain parts of my job it can affect Molex's financial status dramatically.

**How did you decide on this career path?** I always wanted to be involved in manufacturing. I like to know how products are made and all the steps of the process. I also like to challenge myself and working in an engineering position makes me do that everyday.

**What kind of school, classes, and training most prepared you with the necessary skills?** All the engineering classes help me to be prepared to perform this job. Also taking some MBA courses like finance and accounting has helped me to understand product costing. Engineers know how to solve problems or make things more efficient. However, sometimes we do not look at the costing side. With new technologies and lean manufacturing, engineers need to know how their projects affect product costing.

**Do you make a good living?** Thanks to my job I get to increase my knowledge by taking MBA courses. I can afford to pay for my classes, my bills, and other living expenses. I am recently married and my wife and I have just bought our first home. Right now time for entertainment is limited, but my wife and I like to go to the movies and spend fall Saturdays going to Nebraska football games.

**What kind of salary and benefits can a new employee at your company expect?** New employees should expect a really competitive salary and really good benefits, including dental and health insurance. The 401K plan is very good and after one year the company offers profit sharing. Bonuses are awarded every year if the company meets their goals.

**What kind of technology do you use and interact with?** Molex, Inc. uses the best technology available. I mainly use a computer to fulfill my duties. Molex uses a lot of new software's in order to be competitive.

**What advice would you give to students who are undecided on a career choice?** I would recommend them to keep an open mind and to continue further their education. It is really important to keep options open. I never thought I was going to be working in the Finance department. However, by leaving my options open I was able to

get a really good job. Manufacturing is a really competitive field. Technology changes everyday, and in order to stay competitive people can not quit learning.

**Finally, what do you think makes you a good Dream Team candidate?** Firstly, I would like to thank Molex for nominating me for the Dream Team award. I am honored and humbled to even be considered amongst so many outstanding employees here at Molex.

I think I make a good Dream Team Candidate because I have worked very hard to get where I am. My parents are the ones who ever since I was a child have instilled in me the discipline and fortitude that drives me to excel in all endeavors that I set out to accomplish. My continuous drive to reach new heights and to accomplish seemingly "unobtainable" goals has helped me learn the importance of hard work in the face of adversity. Some of these life goals include getting married this past July and starting my family, purchasing my first home, furthering my education, and obtaining an amazing job. There is no greater thrill than succeeding and obtaining all my goals in life. Getting my bachelors and starting my career at Molex has provided me with meaning and purpose to the everyday formalities of life. I am a hard worker and I give Molex everything I have to offer. I work around 45 hours a week while going to school full time to obtain my masters in business.

I was born and raised in Mexico City, Mexico. When I was 17 I was given the opportunity to come to the United States and go to school here when I was offered an athletic scholarship to come and play tennis for the University of Nebraska. Even though I was scared about traveling so far from home, I was so excited about the opportunity to play for one of the most outstanding institutions in the country. I was offered a chance to dedicate myself fully to becoming both an outstanding student in Engineering and tenacious competitor.