

Łeo Kochanowicz

Age: 19

Job Title: CNC Precision Machinist

Company Name: Brand Hydraulics

College: Metropolitan Community College

Degree or Certification: Associates in Machine Tool

What does your company do?

Manufacture hydraulic valves.

What attracted you to the company?

The type of work and how clean it was.

Please list some of your duties:

Run machines, perform quality control checks, setups on lathes and mills, maintenance the machines, paperwork.

What are the best/most interesting things about your job?

Some interesting things about my job would be the amount of technology that is in this line of work. Every year engineers come up with more complex machines that can run faster and more efficient than last year's models. By more efficient, I mean electricity and cycle times. Every day I am creating different parts out of material to be used all over the world.

What is the most rewarding thing about your job?

Getting things out on time makes the customer happy; which is rewarding to me.

How did you decide on this career path?

It was easy for me and I enjoy it. Throughout my entire life I have always enjoyed making things out of nothing. I never changed my mind because I started my career when I was a Junior in high school when I enrolled in a dual credit program at Metro Community College and I am still active in Metro's Associates program.

What kind of school, classes, and training most prepared you with the necessary skills?

I am at Metro Community College. Along with all of the different instructors I had, education was the first step. After two years of school I am employed as a machinist and still work there today with on the job training.

Do you make a good living?

(A specific \$ amount is not necessary, but we'd like to know how you feel about your standard of living, i.e., the things you can afford, such as a new home or vehicle, savings, investments, entertainment, etc.)

I am nineteen years old and am almost making my age so I consider myself doing pretty good. I live on my own and I do not depend on anyone for money. I am also able to buy things for myself without running into money troubles.

What kind of salary and benefits can a new employee at your company expect?

Depending on experience, anywhere from \$12.00 per hour up to \$19.00 per hour with full benefits after one year with the company and 401(k) etc.

What kind of technology do you use and interact with?

Solidworks, Microsoft Word, FANUC, and HAAS

What advice would you give to students who are undecided on a career choice?

Go with what you enjoy doing and feel that it will support you for the rest of your life.

Finally, what do you think makes you a good Dream Team candidate?

Hard work, motivation success, and enjoy what you do.