

Strengthening Minnesota businesses by maximizing efficiency and lowering costs through energy, water and waste reduction

INTERNSHIP: Lead a project focused on industrial cleaning alternatives at a coating manufacturer.

COMPANY: Rust-Oleum, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota

The Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) is seeking a junior or senior college student to lead a project focused on cleaning alternatives and reducing hazardous chemical waste at a coating manufacturer. The intern will work with MnTAP and Rust-Oleum staff to investigate alternatives to MEK for cleaning epoxy resins. The intern will examine production workflow and cleaning processes for improvement opportunities which reduce hazardous waste. The intern will also conduct a solid waste sort and devise a reduction strategy.

JOB DUTIES:

As part of this project, you will be asked to complete the following tasks:

1. Quantify current use of cleaning solvents and composition of solid and hazardous wastes.
2. Assess equipment and procedures at each stage of the manufacturing process and identify key areas of opportunity for waste reduction.
3. Research, test and make specific recommendations for reducing toxicity and volumes of cleaning solvents.
4. Determine opportunities to reduce, reuse or divert materials from solid and hazardous waste.
5. Estimate reduction / diversion potential, savings and costs associated with implementation of recommendations.
6. As time allows, conduct analysis and make recommendations for additional waste reduction-related projects.
7. Prioritize recommendations using simple payback methods to financially justify the alternative processes or equipment.
8. Implement and document approved changes or outline a strategy for implementation.
9. Summarize findings in a poster, an executive summary and a detailed report, including recommended procedures and vendor proposals along with an economic analysis and justification of changes.
10. Present findings to the company and at MnTAP-hosted public presentation events.

As an intern, you will work at the company and report back to MnTAP. The position is full time, 40 hours per week, for three months to start after the conclusion of spring semester or quarter. Pay is \$14/hour, with a lump sum stipend of \$1,000 upon completion of the project deliverables: a final report and presentations. Cumulatively, this equates to \$16.00/hour when averaged over the project. Candidates must pass a background check and drug test.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
- Good oral & written communication skills
- A technical academic background
- Troubleshooting skills
- Self-motivated
- Excel and other software skills
- Appropriate majors: *Engineering, environmental or physical sciences and others as applicable*

TO APPLY:

Apply online at:

www.mntap.umn.edu/intern/student_apply.htm

Remember to submit your application form, cover letter, resume, and unofficial transcript.

Applications can be addressed to:

Nathan Landwehr, Intern Program Administrator
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Minneapolis, MN 55455 • landwehr@umn.edu

MNTAP IS THE HIRING BODY: DO NOT CONTACT THE COMPANY