

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

Internship: Lead a project focused on reducing product loss, and optimizing efficiency with water and chemical usage at a food facility in Rochester, Minnesota.

Company: Seneca Foods, Rochester, MN

The Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) is seeking a junior or senior level college student to lead a project focused on reducing product loss, optimizing chemical usage, conserving water, and improving energy efficiency at Seneca Foods in Rochester, MN. The intern will work with MnTAP and Seneca staff to perform assessments of areas where product loss has been identified and propose solutions that help retain more product, reduce waste, and lead to cost savings. The intern will also footprint Seneca's use of cleaning chemicals and determine opportunities to improve chemical management systems – reducing chemical use while maintaining cleaning and sanitation standards. The student will specifically look for opportunities associated with corn cob razor sharpening procedures, moisture management of finished cans, product quality of peas and the use of chemicals in sanitation and maintenance. The student will draft reports detailing savings opportunities for these projects over the summer and advise on the value of implementation.

JOB DUTIES:

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

1. Analyze data on product loss and prioritize areas that need improvement
2. Investigate potential solutions to product loss and develop a plan to test them.
3. Work with the site's cleaning chemical supplier to footprint chemical usage.
4. Explore and justify opportunities to safely reduce chemical usage.
5. As time allows, identify opportunities for water re-use in processing and movement of product, as well as potential energy savings within the systems addressed.
6. Summarize findings for each opportunity in a detailed final report including an economic analysis, justification of changes, and the environmental benefit associated with each change.
7. Present project findings to Seneca 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 \$13/hour, with a lump sum stipend of \$1,000 upon completion of the project deliverables: a final report and presentations. Cumulatively, this equates to \$15.00/hour when averaged over the project. Candidates must pass a background check.

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 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.

Cover letters 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