

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

Internship: Lead a project focused on water conservation and waste reduction 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 water conservation and waste reduction at Rust-Oleum. The intern will work with MnTAP and Rust-Oleum staff to evaluate ways to reduce water usage in tank cleaning, and to recover and reuse copper and water from a rinsewater stream. They will also investigate ways to prevent steel pigment drums from being landfilled. The intern will quantify these opportunities and develop suggestions to reduce waste and conserve water as well as outline plans for implementation.

JOB DUTIES:

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

1. Characterize the rinsewater stream and investigate technologies to recover and reuse the copper and water.
2. With a focus on cleaning process best practices, optimize water and solvent use in the automated tank cleaning systems.
3. Investigate opportunities to incorporate rinses into products.
4. Investigate ways to eliminate steel drum waste. Communicate with pigment suppliers to identify packaging changes that would reduce or eliminate waste being sent to landfill.
5. Make recommendations for specific improvements based on research, testing, and calculation that will result in water conservation and waste reduction.
6. Estimate water, waste, and energy reduction potential from implementation of provided recommendations, then prioritize suggested changes using simple payback methods for financial justification.
7. As appropriate, support implementation of approved process changes or outline plans for future implementation.
8. Summarize findings in a detailed report, including recommended procedures and vendor proposals along with an economic analysis and justification of changes.
9. 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 \$19/hour, with a lump sum stipend of \$1,500 upon completion of the project deliverables: a final report and presentations. Cumulatively, this equates to \$22.00/hour when averaged over the project. Candidates must pass a background check and drug test.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- U.S. work authorization
- Good technical and communication skills
- Tenacious problem solver
- Self-motivated
- Excel and other software skills
- Cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
- Preferred majors: *Engineering, environmental or physical sciences and others as applicable*

TO APPLY:

Apply online at:

www.mntap.umn.edu/interns/student/apply/

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

Applications can be addressed to:

Matt Domski, Intern Program Manager

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MNTAP IS THE HIRING BODY: DO NOT CONTACT THE COMPANY