

What I Did During My MATC Summer Internship

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“Experience” is the one word that comes to mind when I think back on this summer program. I was able to gain so much experience through numerous tasks that were given to me. The variety of responsibilities that I was expected to handle were extremely beneficial for my future. The knowledge that I have gained through this internship will help me in school as well as in potential jobs.

Starting out the summer I was nervous. I was afraid I would be expected to do certain things that I learned how to do in class but wouldn't remember, but that wasn't the case at all. I was never asked to do more than I could handle and everyone was extremely helpful throughout the summer. If I ever had questions, there were multiple people I could go to get them answered. The laid-back, friendly atmosphere really added to the positive experience I had this summer.

I had the privilege of working on a variety of projects during the internship program. One of the major projects I worked on was the Offutt Stratcom project. For this project I helped restripe a parking lot, worked on the cost estimates, used a hydrograph program to calculate runoff and inlet requirements, and used the Autoturn program to test whether or not the design vehicles could handle turns they would have to make. For other projects I was able to do tasks such as shop drawing reviews as well as help with the design of a drainage system and a sidewalk. I was even fortunate enough to be able to be in charge of my own project. Part of the summer I was also

outside doing locates, which was a nice change from being inside all day. For this I had to go around Omaha and spray paint sanitary and storm sewers in areas where there was going to be construction.

Overall this internship has been a highly enjoyable experience. I'm so thankful that I had the opportunity to work with the MATC program and Lamp Rynearson and Associates. Before this summer I had worried that maybe civil engineering wasn't for me, but now I know that I made the right choice. The knowledge and confidence that I have gained through this I will take with me into future endeavors.