2016 MnTAP Summer Internship: Nordic Ware in St Louis Park, MN
Process Engineering Position Focused on Paint Transfer Efficiency & Energy Efficiency

The Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) is seeking a junior or senior college student to lead a project focused on researching opportunities to increase efficiencies of the spray painting and curing systems at Nordic Ware, a cookware manufacturer in St. Louis Park, MN. This internship will provide a hands-on experience in process engineering. The project will look at options to improve paint transfer efficiency, conserve energy, increase production throughput, and improve automation while conveying high quality products through the finishing process. The company is also interested in optimizing the washing, drying and curing steps of the finishing line.

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

1. Understand the various production parameters of the existing painting system. Gather information from historical production data, employees, observation and measurements.
2. Review current operating procedures and recommend revisions which lead to process improvements. Document procedures which save time, increase production capacity, and minimize air emissions & energy use.
3. Investigate equipment designs that improve paint process efficiencies.
4. Research and evaluate options for improving washer, dryer, and curing equipment as time allows.
5. Demonstrate ability to communicate the value of the lean manufacturing process, and be willing to engage regularly as a process efficiency leader with teams to discuss and support process change.
6. Prioritize suggested changes using simple payback methods to financially justify the alternative processes or equipment.
7. Work with the company’s management and employees to determine feasibility of alternative equipment, methods, layout & processes.
8. Implement and document approved changes or outline a strategy for implementation.
9. Summarize findings in 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, one of which may include a presentation at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) or the Chemical Coaters Association International, Twin Cities Chapter.

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 have a valid driver license and pass a 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](http://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:
Linda Maleitzke, Intern Coordinator
200 Oak Street SE, Suite 350-1
Minneapolis, MN 55455 • lmaleitz@umn.edu

*MNTAP IS THE HIRING BODY: DO NOT CONTACT THE COMPANY.*

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