



Cynthia Gonzalez outside of Weber's Headquarters at Gainesville, TX.



Melinda Elizondo showing her "Just in Time Award" received from Lockheed Martin.



success
story

Customer:
TMAC South Texas

County:
Hidalgo, Cameron

Industry:
Manufacturing
Services

NAICS:
TMAC Services
Internship Program

Who to contact:
TMAC
Regional Director
Henry Oh,
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TMAC INTERSHIP PROGRAM IS ALL ABOUT HANDS ON TRAINING

TMAC South Texas region offers internship opportunities for engineering students. TMAC's internship program introduces students to hands on training and provides them with the opportunity to put into practice the tools learned in class. Projects include, but are not limited to analyzing mechanical systems, building prototypes, layout designs, work measurement/time studies, lean assessments and implementations, CAD drawing and product development. Each project may require between 15 and 20 hours of work per week.

The Situation

Melinda Elizondo became a TMAC intern in the summer of 2005 while a junior majoring in manufacturing engineering at UTPA. In the summer of 2006, Melinda was hired to work as a co-op at Lockheed Martin in Harlingen, TX. For three months Melinda worked on various projects writing plans for quality development; she developed work instructions and visuals, analyzed fishbone diagrams and FEMAs. Melinda graduated on May 2007 from UTPA and she was already hired by Lockheed Martin to continue working with them. She began her career at Lockheed on June 2007.

Cynthia is currently working at Weber Aircraft LP Company in Gainesville, TX, as a manufacturing engineer. According to Cynthia, she got the because of the knowledge and experience gained at TMAC.

"Weber needed and engineer with lean experience and I was ready," she said. In the following years, three TMAC student interns (UTPA Manufacturing Engineer Graduates) have been hired by Weber.

The Results

In every project, TMAC interns are introduced to plant managers and engineering managers. They work together as a team to achieve the goals established at the beginning of the project. Therefore, it makes them develop skills such as working in teams, conflict resolution, and project management. When students graduate, they already have been exposed to the industry and have worked in real life situations. They are prepared to take on any challenges.