Hello.

I recently joined ASHRAE after relocating to Rochester from the Seattle area. After 8 years, I left my job at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard (PSNS) in Bremerton, Washington, in September, as my wife accepted a job as a professor at RIT. I am currently looking for a job as a mechanical engineer. I believe I have the relevant work experience with commissioning and power production to make a positive impact in a new position. I joined ASHRAE to meet people and stay current with processes, concerns, and future advancements in the field of heating, refrigeration, and air-conditioning.

I began working for PSNS upon graduating with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from New Mexico State University in 2001. My title at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard was Nuclear Shift Test Engineer. As a Test Engineer I was required to have a good understanding of all engineering principles. At PSNS I completed an additional two-year certification process involving specialized training in electrical engineering, nuclear physics, mechanical engineering, chemistry, materials, and radiological principles. Once qualified, I led testing, maintenance, and power plant operations on submarine nuclear reactor power plants.

Speaking with individuals at ASHRAE meetings, I understand documentation is a key component to building commissioning. In addition to proper documentation, building systems must be tested and properly operating. As a Test Engineer I kept and reviewed documentation and records associated with planning, testing, and certification of the reactor plant systems and components. I identified, wrote and conducted the test procedures for systems and components throughout the reactor plant. Having worked on site and in an office I understand how individuals on all levels of management and production think and communicate. I believe this aspect of my experience will help me communicate efficiently and effectively with building foremen, engineers, architects, and others.

In addition to commissioning I am knowledgeable about the power industry. I operated and tested a variety of systems including steam generators, heat exchangers, condensers, reverse osmosis machines, evaporators, and ventilation systems. Having working with a Rankin Cycle I understand the effects of changing plant parameters such as temperature, pressures and pump speeds. Along with the mechanical side, I was also involved with operating and troubleshooting electrical distribution and controls.

Beyond my professional experience, I have been doing residential construction work for the past fifteen years. I have experience in drywall, plumbing, painting, roofing, framing, landscaping, insulation, HVAC, and electrical wiring. This background has helped me understand codes, processes, and general dynamics of integrating and coordinating work in the construction industry.

I am confident the skills I have learned are transferable to the heating, refrigeration, and air-conditioning industry. I am quick, dedicated and hard-working. I look forward to meeting more of you at ASHRAE functions.

Sincerely,
Kyle Hickerson

KYLE J. HICKERSON

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SUMMARY

MECHANICAL ENGINEER with eight years experience in a highly sensitive and complex, technical environment. Can coordinate strict, well defined procedures and processes with all professional levels. Focus on optimization of plant operations to ensure the highest level of performance during critical maintenance and test periods.

KEY QUALIFICATIONS

- § Customer Needs Analysis
- § Test Procedure Design & Development
- § System Testing & Documentation
- § Situational Leadership
- § Root Cause Analysis
- § **Secrete Security Clearance**
- § Inter-departmental Alliances
- § Product Functionality & Reliability
- § Project Planning & Management
- § LEAN Process Improvements
- § Cost Control Initiatives
- § Troubleshooting & Problem Resolution
- § Industrial Safety Compliance
- § Staff Supervision, Training & Performance Reviews

Technical Experience: Pro/Engineering, Pro/Mechanica, Pro/Manufacturing, MathCAD, Scientific Work Place, AutoCAD, Matlab, Microsoft Work, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Project, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Visio

Professional Training: Certified Nuclear Shift Test Engineer for S6G and S6W reactor plants, system operations and casualties for pressurized water reactors, reactor materials, heat transfer, nuclear physics, reactor chemistry, radiological worker, electrical and mechanical lockout tagout.

PROFESSIONAL WORK HISTORY

PUGET SOUND NAVAL SHIPYARD & INTERMEDIATE MAINTENANCE FACILITY 2001 – Aug. 2009
Bremerton, Washington

Assistant Assistant Chief Test Engineer (AACTE)

Senior engineer identifying electrical and mechanical reactor plant tests. Test house project manager, coordinating with cross functional areas to complete 18 month boat modernization project.

- Attended project meetings, briefed cross functional areas on planned maintenance and daily progress.
- Test house supervisor, delegating project tasks to Shift Test Engineers.
- Answered administrative and technical questions from Naval Reactor Representative Office and Reactor Plant Contractors Office.
- Write Test Plan Of the Day.
- High grade assessor, auditing project operations and processes to identify best practices and lessons learned.

Nuclear Shift Test Engineer (STE)

Lead planner for work on steam generator components and establishment of reactor containment. Coordinated first time work to disassemble and replace vital components in a primary relief valve. Directed daily Ship's Force briefs on reactor plant conditions, testing and production. Oversaw reactor plant testing and supervised up to thirty enlisted and unionized shipyard workers during nuclear submarine maintenance periods.

- § Evaluated reactor plant test data for quality, accuracy, and acceptability.
- § Determined electrical isolation and retests on integrated electrical cabinets utilizing electrical schematics and system knowledge.
- § Identified and repaired failed components and retest until satisfactory.
- § Conducted annual audits of STE processes and identify weaknesses and best practices. Wrote project reports and distribute to Chief Test Engineers.
- § Utilized root cause analysis to identify and correct problems and weaknesses. Implemented corrective actions to reduce future problems.
- § Reviewed procedures to ensure steps were performed safely and efficiently, in parallel, and documented correctly. Ensured procedures were in agreement with reactor plant operating procedures.
- § Identified process weaknesses during test interruptions. Implemented process changes across entire department in the event of additional interruptions.

Assistant Nuclear Shift Test Engineer Coordinator
Supervised and coordinated up to 25 Assistant Shift Test Engineers (ASTEs) and co-ops during initial two-year STE qualification period. Collaborated with Chief Test Engineers and shipyard organization to coordinate ASTE manning and qualifications.

- Ensured that all ASTE's have completed STE requirements, including a checklist of 150 signatures.
- Conducted yearly performance evaluations and issued bonuses based on assigned criteria.
- Maintained documentation of shipyard requirements for qualified STEs.
- Prepared and conducted quarterly training to STEs.
- Trained ASTEs through lectures and mockup simulators regarding shipyard administrative processes.
- Reorganized the training program using LEAN processes resulting in saving of approximately $18,000 per year per student. The new process improved morale and qualified candidates more efficiently.

Shift Test Supervisor
Oversaw an entire critical test program. Liaison between enlisted personnel, Shift Test Engineer and the Joint Test Group (Chief Test Engineer, Ship's Engineer, Naval Reactor's Representative and Reactor Plant Contractor) during critical plant operations.

- Completed critical reactor plant testing without any significant problems.
- Supervised STEs during reactor plant operations on the SSN 718 Columbus project.
- Reduced overall cost of the test program by developing an Excel spreadsheet that calculated reactor plant parameters to validate test data.

EDUCATION

BS / Mechanical Engineering, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico 2001

RESEARCH

"A Comparison of Two Military Temporary Femoral External Fixators" -
P. Dougherty, B. Vicharyous, E. Conley & K. Hickerson 2003
Clincal Orthopaedics & Related research 412:176-183

ADDITIONAL RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant 2000-2001
Summer Co-op: NASA, White Sands Test Facility 2000
Summer Co-op: Intel Corporation 1996

VOLUNTEER WORK

Flower City Habitat for Humanity