Co-op Work Assignment

My first co-op term was with Emerson Climate Technologies in Sidney, OH. Emerson Climate Technologies is a manufacturing/engineering company that developed various products related to air conditioning, including thermostats, compressors, compressor electronics, and other AC parts. I work with the Air Conditioning New Product/Development group, where I assisted my supervisor, Mark Bonifas, in development and testing of current and new generations of compressors. The first day I arrived I went through a general orientation about company’s policies and resources. The next two days I had orientation with technicians in the lab, where they showed me different types of test they do. I was also given manuals to understand the operation of compressor further. My assignments included statistical analysis of testing data comparing the new generation compressor to the old generation compressor, shipment of compressor parts to assembly plants, written requests of performance and life testing, modeling of physical dimension in the new generation, and many more tasks. Although I did not have a formal mentor, I have friend with several engineers that had similar background as me, and they were very valuable in providing career suggestions.

Assessment of Learning and Development

I am interested in the manufacturing side of business, so I had some taste to it. However, most of my work center on the product development side of business. I found out engineers are fairly laid back; teamwork is essential for the company. Everyone’s opinion is highly valued, and it is nearly impossible to complete a project by one person. The co-op experience improved my communication skill and helped me to network with professionals more effectively. If I were to go through the same experience again, I would join the Toastmaster Club and be involved in community sports. I always felt Toastmaster is a great program, but I did not know about the existence of it in Emerson until late November. I wished I had met more people working for Emerson; it is very interesting talking to them because of the differences in life experience.

Life Out-side of Co-op