



I started with Siemens Industry in May 2009 as a student on the E3 Academy Scheme, and joined the IA&DT Graduate Program after my graduation. The E3 Academy scheme was a great opportunity which provided me with valuable experience that accompanied my university studies. Not only did I experience and improve on practical skills but it also provided me with exposure to business processes.

I was involved in a wide variety of projects whilst on the E3 Academy Scheme, such as researching and developing a product which could be taken into schools to promote engineering. Another project was to build a rig for a college which would then be used to teach students programming on a Programmable Logic Controller (PLC). These projects helped advance my project managing skills, programming capabilities and communication skills.

I am now in my third of four 6 month graduate placements. The Graduate programme allows you to experience various parts of the business. As well as technical placements I have also experienced business and sales placements. Not only has that provided me with a wider skill base it has given me the opportunity to network across the business.

One of the recent projects and biggest challenges I have faced was working on a refurbishment for a steel rolling mill which was donated to Brunel University. I was tasked with creating the program to automate the rolls. This task gave me a vast amount of responsibility in ensuring the accuracy of the software and presented many challenges. I gained a wide variety of skills on the project which ranged from communication through to technical skills and was extremely rewarding.

I enjoy getting involved with a variety of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects, such as an after-school Code Club and the UKSkills Competition. These are rewarding experiences and benefit my day to day work by developing vital soft skills. They also help me to build my technical skill set for a programming role after the graduate scheme.

Cara Bertram

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