

Integrated Systems Technology Employment Report



Lannie Roose

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Lannie Roose of Mansfield, Ohio had been unemployed from a local home improvement company for eight months when he started his new career as a Machine Maintenance Operator at Therm-O-Disc in Mansfield. Roose’s path to his new career started with a visit to the Richland County Job & Family Services office in Mansfield. During the visit, Roose told a counselor that he was interested in a career related to plant maintenance. Roose was soon enrolled in the Integrated Systems Technology (IST) training program at nearby North Central State College (NCSC) in Shelby, Ohio. The IST program at NCSC prepares dislocated workers for high-tech careers that involve operating, troubleshooting or maintaining high-tech equipment with integrated systems.

While participating in the IST training program, Roose received hands-on technical instruction related to integrated systems and assistance in developing a high quality resume, both of which gave him additional confidence in his ability to succeed in a job interview. Roose also received a great lead from a fellow classmate, Tony Bailey, who had just turned his IST training into a career at a popular

local manufacturer. Bailey suggested that Roose apply for a position with Therm-O-Disc. After passing the entrance examination and participating in a job interview, Roose was offered a position as a Machine Maintenance Operator for the company.

When asked how the IST training prepared him for his current position, Roose stated, “I could not have passed the entrance test without having been through the IST program at NCSC.” Roose went on to suggest that the most helpful part of the IST training was learning new skills in multiple areas related to manufacturing, including electrical, electronics and mechanical devices. Even though Roose had no previous manufacturing experience working with integrated systems, he was pleased that the IST training enabled him to start in a mid-level position and hopes to move up the career ladder at Therm-O-Disc.

Roose suggested that the IST program thoroughly met his needs. “The Integrated Systems Technology training program was ‘top-notch.’ The equipment was first class, the instruction was good and all my questions were answered,” said Roose. He also suggested that the training

was ideal for his situation and that he would recommend the IST program to other dislocated workers. “There aren’t a lot of jobs available right now, and this program provided me with skills that set me apart from others seeking positions in the field of manufacturing.”

Bob Shelton, production manager at Therm-O-Disc, is excited to have this new pool of skilled workers available, and is quick to emphasize that the IST program curriculum directly aligns with the needs of his company. “North Central State College is giving us a pool of well-qualified employees. As manufacturing grows more sophisticated and complex, it’s hard to find people who are qualified to maintain the (high-tech) equipment. Without a doubt there has been a serious shortage of trained people with all-around skills. This program is working out well for us.”



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