Sustainability Intern with Purdue Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP)

The Purdue Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) provides high value, affordable solutions to help businesses increase profitability. As advocates for Indiana’s thousands of manufacturers, our staff leverages resources in both the public and private sectors to help identify areas of improvement, streamline processes, and ultimately increase competitiveness. As part of these services, Purdue MEP offers training and consulting in sustainability, ranging from energy audits to W.A.S.T.E. Stream Mapping, Compressed Air Challenge to Energy Savings 101.

Job Description

The sustainability intern with the will be responsible for research and communication in an effort to update existing training curriculum, and assist in developing new training. Interns will be periodically exposed to multiple types of manufacturing facilities, with a chance to learn about the unique environments and challenges in a manufacturing setting. This will be a fairly independent, self-motivated position, with occasional travel within Indiana. Sample tasks include:

- Research 2018 pricing and wattages for energy efficiency upgraded technology.
- Research new technological advances in energy efficiency, both market-ready and pipeline.
- Meet with industry associations to better understand their members’ needs. Use insights to strategize ways to better serve them, with either updates to existing training or new services.
- Assist in on-site sales meetings and workshop trainings.
- Update existing training materials, both powerpoint slides and exercise handouts, to reflect 2018 data. This may include: ES101, Lighting Fundamentals, Sustainable Manufacturing, Demand Management, Power Factor, Internal Energy Auditor, etc.
- If time allows, additional tasks may also include brainstorming and developing ideas for a new course, which will seek to integrate sustainability into Lean Manufacturing culture, “Lean Sustainability.” This will include discussion about the importance of chosen vocabulary and messaging to translate sustainability into common business practices.

The ideal candidate will be organized, detail-oriented, excellent at proactive communication, capable of online research, and possess strong powerpoint, excel, and writing skills. The candidate must be able to work both independently and collaboratively.

The intern will report to Purdue MEP Sustainability Manager Kelly Weger. Compensation will be in the form of a stipend through the Indiana Sustainability Development Program. The intern will work full time for 10 weeks beginning in June and ending in August. Exact beginning and end dates are negotiable. Interns will be required to attend a bootcamp on the IU Bloomington campus from May 14 to 18.

Feedback and Evaluation

The intern will be given regular feedback on progress and performance. Success in the internship will be determined by the completion of specified projects in a professional and timely manner. The intern should learn how Purdue MEP identifies and works to achieve its goals, and how to develop and maintain professional relationships.