

BP Awards Summer Internships to Process Technology Students

BP Exploration and Production awarded 30 summer internships to students from colleges in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Minnesota. The BP Student Internship Program is provided for students who seek to further their training in the industries that use and control mechanical, physical or chemical processes to produce a final product.

Each year BP offers internships to students and graduates interested in a career as a process or instrumentation technician. To qualify for these paid internships, students must be enrolled in or have graduated from a two-year Process Technology (PTEC™) or Instrumentation degree program. Those who are selected will benefit from hands-on, career-specific experience at an onshore or offshore oil and gas facility.

Summer internships are conducted between May and August, and last from 10 to 12 weeks, depending on the location. Each intern is teamed with an operations, maintenance, or instrumentation technician. During their shifts, interns shadow the technicians while they make rounds, take readings, monitor normal operation conditions and practice emergency preparedness. In addition to contributing directly to operations projects and activities, they gain recognition for their accomplishments and teamwork skills.

According to John Payne, Surface SSDN Resource Coordinator for BP Exploration and Production, "This promises to be a great career opportunity for people seeking high-technology jobs. Identifying talented persons early will help us staff our facilities both offshore and onshore."

Significant employment opportunities are expected in the future, and Payne says the Gulf of Mexico is a major growth area. "In the next three to five years we estimate that the production in both gas and oil will increase dramatically, largely due to several new facilities currently under construction coming on stream. These facilities will need to be staffed with qualified people who have process and instrumentation skills and competencies and who are willing to work in this environment."

Internships will be offered again in 2005 and applications will be available on the Center for the Advancement of Process Technology (CAPT) website at www.capttech.org beginning in January 2005. CAPT, a National Science Foundation center for PTEC education, serves as the administrator of the internship program.

2004 Interns

State	Total	Institution	Number of Interns
Louisiana	10	Baton Rouge Community College	1
		ITI Technical College	2
		McNeese State University	2
		Sowela Technical Community College	5
Minnesota	1	Mesabi Range Community and Technical	1
New Mexico	4	San Juan College	4
Oklahoma	3	Northern Oklahoma College	1
		Oklahoma State University, Okmulgee	2
Texas	13	Alvin Community College	2
		Amarillo Junior College	1
		Brazosport College	1
		College of the Mainland	1
		Lamar Institute of Technology, Beaumont	3
		Lee College	1
		San Jacinto College	1
		Texas State Technical College, Marshall	2