

# Salvador Garcia

**Houston Community College — Northeast Campus**  
Houston, Texas

**Pasadena Refining System Incorporated (PRSI)**  
Pasadena, Texas

"I was working for a major specialty retailer selling computers," Salvador Garcia said. "One of my clients was purchasing a computer for college, and told me about his plans to earn an Associate Degree in Process Technology (PTEC™). He explained that employment opportunities for process technicians are increasing because the 'baby boomers' are retiring. After this conversation, I researched the field, and found no other degree that would match the PTEC degree in terms of payback for a two-year investment."

Salvador had recently moved to Houston where his wife had accepted a good job opportunity. He decided this would be a good time to begin a new career, and enrolled at Houston Community College — Northeast as a full-time student.

"Salvador took a keen interest in learning about the operational aspects of industrial facilities," said instructor Max Ansari. "In the beginning, like most students, he expected a few simple guidelines would magically solve any operational issue. Then he found out the enormity and complexity of process operations. Very methodically, he constructed a solid knowledge foundation and identified all the things he needed to learn. I think he'll become a great process technician and advance within his company."

Shortly before graduation, Salvador saw an employment bulletin at HCC for process technicians. He applied at Pasadena Refining System Incorporated (PRSI), was invited for an initial test, and went through a few phases of testing before progressing to final interviews. Three days later, he was offered a job contingent on completing his degree.

Reflecting on his education, Salvador observes: "It is important for students to apply themselves as thoroughly as possible while in school. Everything they learn in class is directly applicable to what they will be required to know and use in the workforce."

"Now I'm looking forward to a good career," Salvador said. "I'm excited about becoming a valued partner with my company and being able to contribute to the industry as a whole."



*Pasadena Refining is seeking to find the "best of class" process technicians to operate its process units. We have increased the bar on what operators are expected to know about advanced technology as we move forward with the company's future plans. Salvador Garcia was assigned to new operator orientation with me for four weeks and successfully met all of his requirements upon completion of the class. We welcome Salvador to begin his Pasadena Refining career in our Fluidized Catalytic Cracking unit.*

~ Linda Brown  
Training Coordinator  
Pasadena Refining System Incorporated (PRSI)