



SAM SAVOIA

Assistant Superintendent
for Allan Myers

Major job responsibilities:

Developing a master plan of operation and coordinating the resources to successfully execute the plan. Working consciously with the budget, production rate, and safety policies in order to deliver a quality product.

Describe a typical day for you:

- I get to the job site before 6 am and ensure the crews are able to complete the scheduled work.
- Then I'll attend the morning huddle with the crews and general contractors and coordination meetings between superintendents/quality control.
- I'll remain on site to address any field issues that arise during the day.
- Additionally, I maintain communication with the engineers and project managers in the office to coordinate the future work and address any concerns.
- I must stay on site until the crews go home. I finish out the day by submitting a daily journal to document all the work that took place.

What do you like best about your position?

Because we are a self performing contractor, I am able to work side by side with the workforce that will be carrying out our plan of operation.

How did the CEM degree help you with your position?

The CEM degree helped me confirm the construction industry was the right fit, introduced me to the correct people and companies, and taught me a strong overview of necessary information needed to succeed while developing technical engineering skills.



ALLIE JO VOGRIG

Project Engineer
for Baker Concrete Construction

Major job responsibilities:

Requests for Information (RFIs), material handling and equipment on job recording, quality assurance and quality control of rebar, post tensioning cables, stud-rails and embeds; logs such as daily logs for the General Contractor (GC), concrete log, pumping logs, and delivery logs; coding and entering time for all of the coworkers.

Describe a typical day for you:

- There is no such thing as a typical day in the construction world.
- I am working in Nashville, Tennessee. I began working on May 21, 2018 which was just nine days after I graduated from Virginia Tech.
- Everyday since, my job has kept me on my toes and been filled with versatile and exciting projects.

What do you like best about your position?

I really love interacting with all of the foreman and coworkers. Everyone is very interesting and has such a unique story on how they got to where they are.

How did the CEM degree help you with your position?

The ability to effectively communicate and problem solve. A lot of the design course work helped me with this because you have to work on teams and work through issues that are not common in the everyday world. Don't be afraid to break the stereotype! Chase your dreams and build the future!



SAM HOUCHINS

Assistant Project Manager/
HR Manager for Chewning and
Wilmer, Inc.

Major job responsibilities:

Assist project managers with day to day project responsibilities (submittals, Requests for Information (RFIs), change orders, weekly meetings, job walks, etc.). Hire in field employees and direct to work; ensure each job is staffed with the proper labor force.

Describe a typical day for you:

- I start with ensuring all job-sites are properly manned.
- If there are no new hires, I then will move to working on project responsibilities such as compiling submittals, writing RFIs, working on take offs or change orders.
- Most days there is at least one job-site meeting or a job walk through to ensure projects are running smoothly.

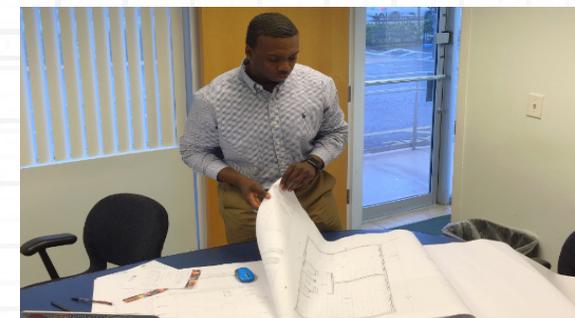
What do you like best about your position?

Daily interaction with the workers in the field. Whether it is working to ensure we have the proper staffing in place or walking a job down and learning what is going on in the field, the daily interaction with our job foreman and electricians is what makes coming in to work each day something I enjoy doing.

How did the CEM degree help you with your position?

CEM taught me the foundation of management, how to manage my time, multiple projects at one time, and workforce in the field. CEM helped teach me communication skills that I use on a daily basis. You are not pigeon holed in to one path only with CEM, you can chase whatever dream job you want with the knowledge and skills that the CEM degree offers.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CEM GRADUATE



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MYERS-LAWSON
SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION
VIRGINIA TECH.



SAVANNAH WRIGHT

Project Manager
for Canada Contracting Co.

Major job responsibilities:

Bidding new projects (attending pre-bids, preparing and sending proposals and communicating with General Contractor[GC]). Managing projects (pre-construction preparations, communication with GC and supervisors, scheduling, change orders, billing and problem solving). I also conduct asbestos inspections and safety training.

Describe a typical day for you:

- I typically start in the office. I will look at potential bids, perform take-off, prepare a proposal, adjust scheduling, prepare change orders or bill.
- I usually leave the office during the day for meetings, site visits or inspections.
- Most days consist of a few of the above-mentioned tasks, but sometimes preparing a proposal or visiting a site will take the entire day.

What do you like best about your position?

The variety. There are very few days that I spend in the office at my desk the whole day. When I go out into the field, I get to see and learn something new because every job is different.

How did the CEM degree help you with your position?

The Capstone class is very helpful in preparing you for the bidding process. The CEM program teaches you the value of teamwork, how to work as one and helps develop communication and professional presentation skills. I would encourage students to look at trades. There are a lot of opportunities for work outside of GC's, and they might find a good fit within a trade.



MICHAEL WALKER

Engineer I/Drilled Shaft Engineer
for Kiewit

Major job responsibilities:

I am in charge of planning drilled shaft operations in terms of site layout, processes and quantity calculations for each shaft. This also includes ordering and coordinating concrete delivery to the job-site. Besides planning ahead, I am also partially responsible for overseeing the daily installation of the drilled shafts on the job by confirming shaft depths, layouts, concrete placement and ensuring the overall quality of each shaft.

What do you like best about your position?

I get the opportunity to work all over the country on some of the most unique projects available. Every day on the job presents something new. There are so many unknowns when working with deep foundations. You must be able to act and think quickly on the fly. It is exhilarating work, and I love it! My personal advice: Find your true passion and pursue it with fire. Construction is one of the few industries where you get what you put into it. Put in hard work from the beginning and you will reap the rewards of a job well done.

How did the CEM degree help you with your position?

You must have a solid understanding of the business and the thought processes that go behind every decision that has to be made. The CEM curriculum is set up to mold a student's ability to make these type of decisions while giving them experience dealing with the business side of construction. That was my experience with the CEM curriculum, and I feel that it has truly helped me be able to effectively solve problems in this line of work.

MICHAEL WALKER_{CONT}

Engineer I/Drilled Shaft Engineer
for Kiewit

Describe a typical day for you:

- A typical day on the job starts off with a pre-shift coordination meeting which involves all members on the team, where we discuss the plan for the shift.
- We then head out to site and begin work. Currently we are set up with two crews: one crew drilling 42" diameter shafts that average 120' in depth, and a second crew following behind them the next night setting rebar cages and placing 5,000 psi concrete into the shaft. The first item on the agenda is to test and verify shaft cleanliness and depth.
- Once that has been verified, the pour crew sets the rebar cage into the shaft, while the drill crew moves the drill rig into position for the next shaft.
- During this time, I am taking measurements on the rebar cage to ensure it is placed properly and rests at the correct elevation. Once the cage is properly set, the crew begins placing concrete into the shaft.
- As concrete is being placed, I keep a detailed log to monitor the elevation rise, which helps determine the locations of any voids in the ground that may be present. After concrete has been placed, I ensure the top of the shaft is at the correct elevation before heading back to the office.
- There, I compile all of my data into daily reports that are submitted to the owner, which determine the quality of the shaft we placed during the shift.



ANNIE SKORULSKI

Project Engineer
for DPR Construction

Major job responsibilities:

Understanding contracts, daily communication with the team and subcontractors, identifying & solving issues in the field with Requests for Information (RFIs), submittal processing, leading kick-off meetings, and material tracking.

Describe a typical day for you:

- I review submittals, track material with procurement logs, and write and solve field coordination issues.
- I do this by communicating and walking the site with various trades, DPR on-site team, and the design team/owner.
- This includes walking the site with foremen from various trades, the DPR Superintendent, and inspector of record to review quality/verify the materials put in place.

What do you like best about your position?

The ability to communicate and interact with many different people throughout each day. It is a very people-based industry and it makes it fun to problem solve with many different key players. I enjoy construction because of the team atmosphere on-site because no responsibility is entitled to a single person.

How did the CEM degree help you with your position?

It taught me how to problem solve and enhanced my communication skills, while still providing an understanding of how the construction industry works and the background knowledge of how something is built.