

ANDI ZHOU

2869 E Eisenhower Parkway, Ann Arbor, MI 48108 ♦ 734-881-4192 ♦ andizhou@umich.edu

Dear Mr. Griffin

I was very excited to see Ms. Yee's email about an open position for student assistant at the Aero Tech Center. I am very optimistic and confident that I can be of great assistance in solving the various tasks and problems given by the Aero Tech Center with my current skill set. I am a lead aerodynamic engineer at the Michigan Aeronautical and Science Association (MASA), responsible for designing and manufacturing the fins for the Tangerine Space Machine. What is more, I have plenty of experience working independently without guidance and have strong familiarity with both basic and advanced hand tools.

I understand that the Aero Tech Center is looking for an individual that is punctual, dependable, and self-motivated, and I am happy to say that I have gotten just that. In my current position as the lead engineer for fins, I have ample experience in working in high-stress situations. Specifically, my team and I were tasked with manufacturing all major components for the fins under a tight six-week lead time. This includes finalizing the designs, pushing out manufacturing drawings, coordinating with both in-house and out-of-house manufacturers, and dropping/picking up finished components a month and a half before the final season. And here I am after finals, and I am happy to report that all major components are manufactured and complete. It was certainly not a smooth ride, as it is our first time learning how to create drawings and manufacture components. However, it was during this rough time that I learned how to work under pressure, how to correctly prioritize tasks, and to keep my head cool during intense situations, which are skills I believe I could leverage to assist the team at the Aero Tech Center.

I have always been in awe of the state of the art laboratory facilities available at the Department of Aerospace Engineering, ranging from the various wind tunnels in GFL to the combustion chamber on the second floor of FXB. So much so that on the first day I arrived on campus, I immediately paid a visit to the 5' by 7' wind tunnel. It would honestly be a great honor for me to help continue maintaining these precious instruments at U of M.

Thank you so much for this opportunity, and I am looking forward to hearing back from you!

Sincerely
Andi Zhou