Cole Rutkowski

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PERSONAL PROFILE

• Junior year Mechanical Engineering student with hands-on fabrication expertise and leadership experience in engineering projects. Passionate about designing and testing innovative solutions in mechanical systems and outdoor gear.

EDUCATION

BS in Mechanical Engineering, University of Colorado Boulder

• Spanish Minor GPA: 3.51

- Extracurricular Courses: Welding, Machine Shop Safety and Technology, Operation of Universal Test Machines, ACE CNC Machining Training
- Relevant Coursework: Dynamics, Thermodynamics, Materials Science, Solid Mechanics, Fluid Mechanics, Heat Transfer

SKILLS

Fabrication: Lathes, Mills, Waterjet, MIG/TIG Welding, Brazing, 3D printing

Measurement Operations: Keyence CMM and MMS, Universal Testing Machine, Ohaus Balance for Specific Gravity, Mark-10

Torque Gauge

Software: SolidWorks, Matlab, C++, HTML, CSS, Microsoft Office, Excel

ENGINEERING EXPERIENCE

Class Project August 2024-December 2024

Drill-Powered Tricycle

- Designed, manufactured, and tested drill-powered tricycle for class competition, setting endurance competition record.
- Managed project lifecycle, including design, welding, machining, and testing of the frame and drivetrain.
- Welded frame components and machined adapters to optimize system performance.

Personal Project September 2023 - Present

Making and Testing Climbing Nuts, Hexes, and Cams

- Machined custom components with waterjet, lathe, and mill from Aluminum 6061-T6
- Researched mountaineer, homemade, and professionally-produced gear made between 1970 and present
- Studied and modeled old gear, hand-sketched and CAD modeled custom variations
- Tested aircraft-cable extensions in tension machines
- Fall tested new gear on real rock with increasingly large falls (30ft max)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Quality Control Intern, Trelleborg Sealing Solutions Denver

June 2024 - August 2024

Graduation Date: May 2026

- Created detailed documentation for quality control processes, improving testing efficiency.
- Designed and standardized procedures for torque, tensile strength, and hardness testing.

Machine Shop Assistant, Idea Forge at University of Colorado Boulder

October 2024 - Present

- Taught students in basic machining processes including lathes, mills, bandsaws, presses, and tool selection.
- Instructed manufacturing and assembly of wobbler engines for class projects.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Mountain Guiding and Safety

September 2022 - Present

- Teaching safety and mountain skills to novice climbers through the Alpine Club.
- Guiding new climbers on routes in multi pitch and alpine terrain.
- Instructing on safe anchors, rope systems, planning, preparation, and logistics.

EXTRACURRICULARS

Distance Running and Triathlon Trad Climbing and Mountaineering Dance (Tango, Country Swing)