

Kurt Foster

Portfolio: kurtf.webs.com • *Cell:* 541-231-8228 • *Email:* fostkurt@gmail.com

I specialize in Industrial Automation Technology. With 4+ years of work experience and a two-year automation degree, there is little else as exciting as repairing automation equipment and finally getting to see your work in action. Applying hands-on skills to increase the efficiency, safety, and throughput of complicated machinery is humbling and exciting. This is at the core of what drives me through difficult tasks.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Technician/Owner

March, 2021 to Present • 1 Yr. 6 mos.

Kurtrek, Sole Proprietorship. [Corvallis, OR]

Full-time

Utilized automation for the advancement of easy to use and energy efficient farms.

- Adhering to UL standards of electrical design practices in prototype construction
- Created electrical, fluid, and mechanical drawings for assembly of fixtures & prototypes
- Used a variety of hand tools for assembly and construction of electro-mechanical systems
- Developed CAD and 2D engineering drawings for component fabrication and assembly
- Used continuous improvement for design to lower cost, increase quality of automated devices
- Programmed and wired PLC and microcontroller devices for real-time process control
- Used a variety of hand tools: WAGO Variocrimp, self-adjusting wire stripper, heat-guns, tap & die sets, metal jig saws, and other common shop tools
- Electrical wiring involving 12VDC to 120VAC for powering pumps, valves, and associated electrical equipment, all organized to be functional, safe & user friendly

Equipment Maintenance Technician I & II

Level 2:

October, 2020 to Feb, 2021 • 5 mos.

Tesla, Inc. [Sparks, NV]

Level 1:

June, 2018—July, 2019 • 1 Yr. 2 mos.

Full-time

Troubleshoot/maintained automated machinery for Powertrain Manufacturing.

- Diagnosed equipment failures and suggested improvements to process and manufacturing engineering
- Identified out-of-spec material condition for drive unit fluid testing preventing ~\$1m+ in recall costs
- Repaired automated machinery, requiring full knowledge of the functional operation of the machine
- Kept current with updates to machinery and manufacturing processes by keeping in communication with associated engineering and across all shifts' maintenance and production crews
- Used Tesla Manufacturing Instructions (MI's) organization for maintenance and overhaul of assigned equipment
- Collaborated with supervisors, engineering and maintenance across all shifts to achieve quick and accurate repairs
- Communicated with process and manufacturing engineers on results for Drive Unit test cell operation
- Escalated to the proper chain of command when the necessity rose and followed through repairs to completion
- Worked with minimal to no supervision, while completing a variety of maintenance and overhaul tasks
- Assembled/replaced required mechanical, electrical, hydraulic & pneumatic components of production equipment
- Acted quickly, efficiently and always with safety first in order to complete the task
- Organized and maintained maintenance area with a high degree of cleanliness utilizing the 5-S methodology

Technician/Owner

August, 2019—Sep, 2020 • 1 Yr. 2 mos.

Kurtrek, Sole Proprietorship. [Corvallis, OR]

Full-time

(Same responsibilities as my present day position above)

Automation Technician

Andrews Cooper [Corvallis, OR]

Mar—May 2018 • 3 mos.

Internship/Part-time

Assembled custom automated manufacturing and test-equipment, including a variety of fabrication tasks.

- Put high-level of attention to detail when fabricating and assembling complex robotic machinery
- Drilled, tapped, fastened components for industrial electrical panels and pneumatic panels
- Wired control panels using electrical diagrams and red-lined issues, of which I reported to engineering
- Cut, stripped, crimped, assembled and connected MIL-Spec multi-pin connectors (up to 56-pin connectors)
- Associated with procurement and parts' organization for timely machine assembly

SKILLS

Industrial Automation Systems:

- Pneumatic & Hydraulic assembly and schematic creation with FluidSim software
- Rockwell Allen-Bradley RSLogix 5000 PLC programming, wiring and troubleshooting
- ArcFlash rated PPE trained, LOTO/OSHA-10 experienced
- Fanuc teach pendant fault recovery, program selection, and actuation troubleshooting
- Able to quickly locate and analyze schematics and other technical documents
- Arduino Microcontroller IDE basic programming and wiring

Computer Skills:

- Tesla Manufacturing Operating System (MOS) experience with Non-conforming (NC) creation and automatic routing for production line parts
- Ignition! SCADA System, AutoCAD, SolidWorks, PTC Creo, Onshape component design and assembly
- Microsoft Office Suite: Word, Excel, Outlook, OneNote, Visio, Powerpoint

Machine Shop:

- Manual vertical mill and lathe for basic parts
- MIG, TIG, & Oxy-Acetylene welding experience, Steel & Aluminum
- CNC experience with simple aluminum parts

EDUCATION

Associate of Applied Science,

2016 to 2018 • 2 Yrs.

Industrial Automation Technology [Linn-Benton Com. College]

GPA: 3.94

Learned the fundamentals of electro-mechanical assembly and testing, Programmable Logic Controllers, industrial maintenance, electrical troubleshooting, hydraulic/pneumatic assembly and testing, and process-control/instrumentation.

Capstone Project: Wafer Handling Automated Transfer System

- Designed, wired and tested a pick and place device using two HP, Inc. wafer handling machines
- Combined an Allen-Bradley 5000 PLC with two Arduino UNOs and four motor controllers with associated safety relays
- Fully programmed and sustained a complete automated operation of four stepper motors, sensors, and conveyance

Welding Project: Aluminum Mountain Bike Frame

- TIG welded, machined and assembled associated bike parts to build a fully functional mountain bike