

Training Feedback Summary

February 2022



Overall Feedback

The training program continues to serve as a solid foundation. Apart from the stress encountered during relocation and the Lab projects phase, trainees consider the program a positive experience that sufficiently prepares them for their careers, as well as a great general overview of what is used day-to-day by the Application Engineer. Leads reported positively on grads who exited the program 6-12 months ago.

Training Phase

Suggested existing topics to emphasize:

- Newest Visualization technology
- Communication protocols (TCP, Ethernet I/P, Modbus TCP/RTU, OPC UA)
- Legacy file handling libraries
- Smart Drive Technology
- Smaller projects before Labs
- Help file usage & performing research
- Troubleshooting hardware

Suggested topics to add:

- Vision
- CAN communication
- CNC and/or Robotics
- Older technologies (PLCopen, older versions of programming application)
- Remote maintenance

Suggested improvements:

- Product Spotlight content should be seamless between weeks; include more hardware information
- Consider different visualization structure styles and their benefits
- More exposure needed to “ready to ship” project(s) in terms of error handling and diagnostics

Lab Project Phase

Suggested improvements:

- Lab projects should be 7 days long (excluding weekends), or spaced throughout the program
- Remove the letter grade and score to encourage experimentation
- There should be no joint scores (Conveyor project)
- Better grader screening for compatibility
- Add the old alarm system as a requirement to one of the Lab projects

Housing & Relocation

Suggested improvements:

- Training program should be hosted 50-67% remote to help alleviate relocation & financial burdens.

Other

The program accounts for 25% of one engineer’s customer project development process (with the rest pulling from previous studies, intern work, and self-learning). This can serve as important hiring information!

Detailed feedback from each group is presented on the following pages.