**Topic 3 Career Path**

***Being a Successful Specialist.***

Success may be defined by people in different ways, but being a dedicated employee, a strong leader, and an honest person can all make a big difference in making you a successful professional in any career. No matter how you determine your goals, strengthening your skills, building professional relationships, and being a self-motivated specialist can help you to achieve success and satisfaction in your career.

Success can be defined as the size of paycheck or having the corner office. It can be the feeling you get when you know you did a great job or the one you get when you know you helped someone. The one thing all of us have in common is that, given the amount of time we spend at work, we want to at least like what we’re doing every day. Life is either too long or too short to spend time in jobs we hate. Therefore, to become a successful specialist, first of all you need to decide what kind of work brings you pleasure. Your satisfaction with your career is strongly linked to whether you feel you have met your own goals. Soft skills, such as critical thinking, problem solving, communication skills, and hard skills, related to your field of work, will help you with this.

***My Speciality.***

Professional skills in IT are universal and allow a trained specialist to feel like a sought-after employee in any country of the world. I am studying in the specialty "computing machines, systems and networks", where all professional subjects can be divided in the following proportions: 30% - computer hardware, 30% - computer software, 25% - network technologies. The remaining 15% of disciplines are either basic universal subjects, such as "Discrete Mathematics", or highly specialized disciplines. For four years at the university, both low-level - Assembler and high-level - C/C++ Java programming languages have been studied in my specialty. After graduation, specialists can hold positions such as Software engineer, QA Engineer, Infrastructure Engineer, Web Developer and others.

***Professional Development.***

To stay competitive in our careers, we must not only do our jobs well today, but be prepared for how we’ll be doing our jobs well in two, five, ten years from now. The aim of personal and professional development is to help you to manage your own learning and growth throughout your career. CPD(Continuous professional development) is process of building, supporting and enhancing your knowledge and skills. CPD activities can range from formal educational activities such as training courses, workshops or seminars to more informal approaches such as work-based learning or mentoring.

There are some important skills and experience. Employees should place more emphasis on being able to deal with conflicts and deliver on strategy to achieve tangible benefits for the business. We can call them soft skills or emotional intelligence – employers are going to seek out this attribute more and more. Because of technological advances, shifts in society, and the many unknowns of the future, employees need to be open to new ideas, flexible to pivot with changing times, and ready to adapt to changes.

CPD helps to ensure that you have the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed as a professional. It helps you to build professional confidence and the reputation of the profession.