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CSS 497 Abstract

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My Internship at Alitheon

Working at a startup has its ups and downs. On one hand there are limited resources and the amount of time they can afford to teach you is limited, but on the other hand the projects they give you are more impactful than any major company would ever consider assigning to an intern.

With Alitheon, this meant that I was able to work on high level code that I never thought I’d work on in an internship. Within the first week I was asked challenging questions, provided difficult assignments, and trusted to spearhead projects alone. Over the course of the internship, I was assigned two major projects:

1. A focus assistant that will be used to help workers quickly and correctly focus industrial camera lenses and regularly check if a lens has gone out of focus all while recording data to help recognize which cameras need work.
2. A full stack OCR engine that starts from a shell script, sets local variables, runs a Docker compose file to load both the locally hosted OCR REST server and the camera service from which the images of text are captured, and the cropping tool to help users declare that area of a specific object type that important text can be found in.

Both projects taught me so much about what it takes to be a software developer in the modern world. The lessons learned and the struggles faced when trying to overcome the challenges assigned to me were monumental towards the development that I see in myself as this internship comes to an end.

The real world is vastly different from college, and the fact that I was able to experience those differences will be some of the most useful tools I have on my belt as I leave the comforts of college to face the real world. The result of my struggles is the reward of employment with Alitheon. I have enjoyed my internship and I am ready to leave my mark in the computer vision world.