



MAX ALLDRED
MECHANICAL TECHNICIAN
APPRENTICE YEAR 4



The Apprenticeship Experience Interview

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO UNDERTAKE AN APPRENTICESHIP?

I've always had an interest in how things work, I believe an apprenticeship combined the theory and experience of this into one course.

WHAT SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE HAVE YOU GAINED THROUGH THE APPRENTICESHIP SO FAR?

I have gained good knowledge of how different equipment operates and how they work internally through college and experience on site. I have also gained knowledge on how oil and gas is processed and extracted. On-site experience has taught me how to work with others effectively, not just within my own department but with others as well - I have also gained skills working on various components and equipment maintenance practices.

WHAT DOES A TYPICAL DAY LOOK LIKE FOR YOU?

I typically wake up and go for breakfast before putting on PPE and heading down to the office. First we have a morning meeting, where the plan for the day is discussed and tasks given out, with the current status of the task (e.g if spanning multiple days, or requires isolations). After this, if any other trades are required I have a talk with them and agree on a timeframe. A permit is then taken live, and a toolbox talk with the required personnel conducted. Tools required for the job are gathered into a bag and taken to the job site and we begin work, working until lunch with a break at 9. After lunch, we are given some time before heading back, usually spent in the Rec room (pool table, TV) or the Quiet room, then working until dinner time with another break at 3. After shift, I tend to wind down writing a report on a task or watching a series before heading to sleep.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE MOST REWARDING ASPECT OF YOUR APPRENTICESHIP EXPERIENCE?

Meeting new people who are willing to share their experience and knowledge, and learning new skills to be able to carry out tasks with little assistance. PBS have been very good at organising training and courses to further enhance my apprenticeship learning.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE SOMEONE CONSIDERING AN APPRENTICESHIP IN THE ENERGY SECTOR?

Go for it, if you like getting hands on while learning it's a very good opportunity to work alongside experienced colleagues and learn from them.

