

# Farhan Khan, Mechanical Engineering Major

Junior: Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

Internship Focus:  
Project Design



## What projects are you currently working on?

My first project was comparing contract invoices and amounts billed for Charge's Mobilehome Park Program, summarizing its financial standing for the program manager. I then progressed to engineering, where I assisted in building BOMs (bill of materials) for the gas infrastructure engineer. Throughout my internship I have also worked with the team of interns on a business optimization project. Our task was to search for inefficiencies within the company and present solutions. I interviewed various employees of the company serving in different roles, searching for issues that they felt needed to be addressed. After identifying the problems, our team presented our findings and recommendations to the field operations director.

## What's something new you have learned so far?

One of the most valuable experiences I have had is learning how to work well with my team. Teamwork is essential to being an effective engineer, and this internship has given me the opportunity to work with a diverse team toward a common goal. Interviewing different employees at various levels, in various positions, was also highly beneficial. People are the most important asset of any company, and getting to understand and appreciate the different personalities and experiences that contribute to a successful business was an eye-opening opportunity.

## Does any particular experience stand out to you?

I loved going out to the field and learning about the construction industry. I know when I've learned something new because it changes the way I see the world. Being able to recognize what's happening at a job site makes me more appreciative of the work and planning that goes into the construction and maintenance of our infrastructure. That experience coupled with my interviews of field workers gave me an admiration for their work ethic and the pride they take in their profession. Empathy and recognition of every worker that contributes to a company is something I've learned here at Charge, and something that I will carry with me to every job I have in the future.

## What skills/experience do you hope to gain by the end of your internship?

I hope to get into some design work and hands-on CAD experience. At previous internships, the work I loved most was engineering something from the ground up: planning, designing, manufacturing, and then implementing.

## What do you see yourself doing in the future?

I have been learning SolidWorks on the side, so I would like to add to my repertoire of CAD skills by learning AutoCAD. I also found the electrical side of the engineering very intriguing. Although trying to learn about all the electric infrastructure seems daunting, I am eager to do it.