

# Maipaluku Moua, Mechanical Engineering Major

Junior: San Jose State University

Internship Focus:  
Cost Controls



## What projects are you currently working on?

I am currently working with the Project Cost Controls group to develop budget forecasting templates for project managers. Another big project I'm working on is editing the Project Life Cycle Manual. This manual is used by project managers, but involves a lot of different departments so I've been getting to work with different people within the company. A lot of my tasks require flexibility and efficient communication because we receive constant feedback.

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

I learn something new every day! The Project Life Cycle Manual project has given me an overview of how a construction company functions. I've been exposed to construction terms and roles, and how every position and department is dependent on one another. Most importantly, this internship has taught me soft skills like managing my time, prioritizing tasks, and building a connection with others through a virtual experience. By providing us with laptops, monitors, computer accessories, and access to MS Teams, Charge has made working remotely very accessible and stress-free.

## Does any particular experience stand out to you?

Going out to jobsites stand out to me the most. On the first day, Angus, the Director of Field Operations, went over how engineers at Charge begin as field engineers so they can understand what the construction crews do and how hard they work. This experience was very humbling. I think it's important to see firsthand the type of work you do, all

those involved, and how your work affects them.

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

I feel like I came in at a good time because the company is making a transition to HCSS HeavyJob software. Becoming familiar with this program will help me in the future because many other companies utilize this program as well. I'm also learning what skills are important to carry on from my classes to the field.

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

Before this internship, my exposure to the construction industry was minimal. Now, I can see a future in it because I enjoy it and there's always so much to do. Specifically, I can see myself as a project manager, utilizing my problem-solving skills and ability to work under stress and deadlines. I'm really excited for where life will take me in the future.

## What do you enjoy most about interning with Charge?

I have enjoyed my internship with Charge and will be immensely sad when it will be over. Whether it was technical or intrinsic, I have learned something new from everyone and have been touched by their kindness. Lessons these folks taught me were things that they don't teach you in school, and I am very appreciative to have learned them with Charge.