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RML is where innovative design and precision engineering come together to create outstanding Production Automation systems and components.

Their focus is on solving production challenges that free their customers' human potential, which across over 40 years of operation has earned them a reputation for always delivering exceptional solutions.

Meet Taine, Electrical Apprentice at the innovative Hamilton-based automation company, RML Machinery. He's here to bust a myth: all those school subjects you think you'll never use? They come back, and they're more important than you'd think!



Tasks for an Electrical Apprentice may include:

- Installing machines
- Electrical repairs
- Trouble-shooting faults
- Electrical installations
- Installing wiring systems or switchboards
- Preparing and cleaning work spaces
- Electrical inspections or testing
- Testing circuits
- Installing conduits between devices

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Taine Sinclair
ELECTRICAL APPRENTICE

Q & A

The FutureForce® Crew sat down with Taine to chat about his role...

TOP CAREER TIP

JUST BE KEEN TO LEARN AND HAVE A GOOD ATTITUDE. MOST PEOPLE IN THE WORKFORCE ARE WILLING TO TEACH THOSE AROUND THEM, BUT YOU NEED TO BE WILLING TO LEARN AND HAVE THE RIGHT ATTITUDE.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR ROLE?

As an Electrical Apprentice there are a whole lot of tasks, I complete such as wiring machines, installing machines and travelling to the site to install.

WHAT GOT YOU INTERESTED IN THIS CAREER PATH?

Through school I did a lot of practical subjects, and these were always my favourites. Because of this I had always had my mind on doing an electrical apprenticeship. My high school offered a careers pathway subject at MIT in Manukau doing an electrical pre-trade however, in Year 13 it wasn't offered at my school so I moved to another school to then do a pre-trade in both electrical and CNC programming.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR JOB?

I honestly enjoy the challenging parts of my work because this keeps it interesting. My work involves a lot of fault-finding and problem solving, which prevents the job getting stale.

WHAT ARE SOME CHALLENGES YOU FACED AT RML?

Staying on top of the apprenticeship has been the hardest part for me. You work a full-time job and then go home and study or practice. Make sure you stay on top of it, so you don't fall behind. This is where your time management and personal responsibility becomes important.

WHAT ARE YOUR CAREER GOALS?

Seeing as I am finishing up my apprenticeship, this is something I have been thinking on myself. The last year and a bit I have started doing more technical drawings of the electrical elements of machines. I am thinking of moving towards automation engineering as this is a side of my job I have enjoyed and found interesting.

TAINE SINCLAIR ELECTRICAL APPRENTICE



WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNT ON YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

Communication is massive, as I have had quite a lot to do with dealing with customers. That is a whole different ballpark than just communicating with friends or coworkers. It requires more corporate language and professional email writing.

Time management is something you learn in full-time work, showing up every day, completing tasks and being reliable to hold on to a job.

Although it sounds broad, skills-wise you learn all basic electrical skills. For what we do the focus is on control panels, which not every electrician gets to do. Working with PLC (programmable logic controllers – the brain of the machine) and working alongside automation, I have learnt skills from this role too.

WHAT SORT OF PERSON SUITS AN ELECTRICAL APPRENTICESHIP?

Someone who is keen and always wanting to learn. There is so much learning to do both with tools but also theory. There are three years of theory to complete while you work a full-time job. You need to be determined and want it bad enough to keep pushing to the end. Being a fast learner and having good people skills is also useful because there is a lot of talking, not just to coworkers but customers as well.



TIPS & ADVICE



WHAT WOULD YOUR ADVICE BE FOR A NEW APPRENTICE?

Take on as much knowledge as you can from everyone, that's something that helped me out at the start. Here at RML there are a lot of capable people, and they all have a lot to share. Sometimes it can be overwhelming so just take it all in and ask lots of questions.

WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE FOR AN ELECTRICAL APPRENTICESHIP?

Just be keen to learn and have a good attitude. Most people in the workforce are willing to teach those around them. But you need to be willing to learn, you aren't expected to know it when you are new, but it is about having the right attitude.

WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE FOR KEEPING BALANCED?

Having hobbies is always the best advice, this means you can take your mind off work with something fresh and separate work from outside life. You also need to make a conscious effort to slow down. When I started my apprenticeship, you feel like you must get everything right, which you don't. Everyone is understanding of the fact you are learning.

