

CAREER SPOTLIGHT

Manufacturing:

Welder Mechanic • Lab Analyst



Meet Welder Mechanic, Jeremy Czarnecki

Jeremy Czarnecki is a welder/mechanic at Martin Marietta Magnesia Specialties in Manistee. The plant manufactures magnesium oxide and magnesium hydroxide that is shipped around the world for use in a variety of applications.

Czarnecki started as a laborer at the plant. Through in-house training and testing, Czarnecki worked his way up to welder/mechanic. He uses a variety of tools to help maintain and repair machinery at the plant. Czarnecki says his job involves a lot of troubleshooting and doing something different every day.

"You work on all types of different equipment and sometimes you're welding," said Czarnecki. "The day goes by fast; I like that about it."

Meet Lab Analyst, Jordan Sell

Jordan Sell is a lab analyst at Martin Marietta. After he finished high school he worked at a local grocery store for about four years before getting a job as a laborer at Martin Marietta. The plant uses the WorkKeys jobs skills assessment—Sell's scores in applied math and reading for information qualified him for a job in the lab. He collects samples of raw materials and finished products, and performs a variety of tests on them.

"The quality control aspect intrigued me," said Sell. "You're the eyes and ears of the operation. They can make all the adjustments in the world but they rely on you to tell them how to make adjustments."

About Manufacturing Careers

The manufacturing industry has gone through a lot of changes in the past 10-20 years but manufacturing jobs are still available in northern Michigan. These jobs now require higher skill levels than they have in the past. Workers need math, science, and communication skills, along with the ability to adapt to changes in technology.

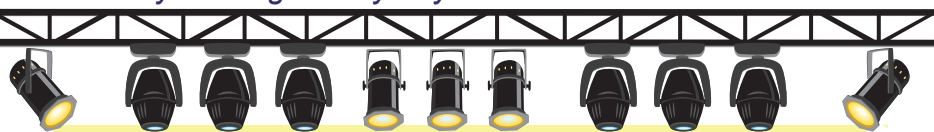
"The days of coming in to work and one man doing a single, repetitive job are gone," said Jim Reithel, the Vice President of Chemical Operations at Martin Marietta Magnesia Specialties in Manistee. "Workers use reasoning and logic to make good decisions. They multi-task and do a variety of things every day."

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Career Skills for the New Economy

- Critical Thinking & Problem-Solving
- Collaboration & Leadership
- Adaptability
- Initiative & Entrepreneurism
- Effective Oral & Written Communication
- Accessing & Analyzing Information
- Curiosity & Imagination
- Personal Accountability

Based on information from *The Global Achievement Gap* by Tony Wagner (2008, Basic Books, New York) and adapted from *The Seven Survival Skills for Careers, College, and Citizenship*, Tony Wagner, Harvard University.



The Career Spotlight is available online, providing more in-depth information & videos:

nwm.org/career-spotlight



Career Spotlight is a project of the Northwest Michigan Talent District Career Council