

Name:

John

Job title:

Process specialist, Nanocomp Oy Ltd

Career:

I came here seven years ago to be a production worker and actually I have not any education in this field. Previously, I worked in Perlos and gained knowledge in production work. Later, I applied here and got the position. My educational background is in secondary school and handcraft and industrial art. I have been used to work with my hands.

Responsibilities:

At the moment, I work with R&D. My task is to create new prototypes of the coming products. Another major responsibility is having and maintaining the tools we need for production. I have to do some measuring and quality control as well. Mostly these concern the prototypes, not so much the production line. My typical day consists of various things. Part of the day I work here at the company, rest I may be at the university. We are renting some equipment we need there and usually I need them twice or three times a week.

Essential skills in my job:

- Handcraft skills and creativity, since assembling prototypes requires manual dexterity. Working with prototypes whose function cannot be precisely predicted is interesting and I am able to create always something new.
- Computer skills
- Language skills
- Team working and communication skills
- Organisational skills and self-direction

What I need to know in my job:

- physics

Nanocomp Oy Ltd

Nanocomp Ltd is manufacturing micro- and nanophotonics related products. Company headquarters, development department and production is in Finland. They also have offices in USA, Japan and an affiliated company in Hong Kong. Optic components are produced by printing them on a very thin plastic film by using a highly efficient reel-to-reel process. Components shaped as rolls are easy to transport to clients, for example to China. The annual revenue in 2014 was 6.5 million euros, number of staff was 35, 8 of them women.



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I need handcraft skills in my work, since assembling prototypes requires manual dexterity. First versions are always handmade before we even think mass production. Computer skills and language skills are also very important. We have many foreign co-workers and English is commonly used. Team working and communication are essential because I work with the people at the office and in the production line. I organize my tasks myself, in addition I give instructions to production workers relating to the machines and wanted result. I am in no way a supervisor though.

Because I have no education in this field, the knowledge gained through experience is essential. Fortunately, I have physicists as colleagues so I can always ask them if I need help in that field. Because I work with prototypes, nobody actually has the information whether some prototype will work or not. Experiments will show how they work and that information is necessary and vital not for me only but for others as well.

What I find most interesting in my job is the diversity of the tasks. There are no similar days, every day brings something new. Working with prototypes whose function cannot be precisely predicted and creates always something new.

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