

Transcript

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STEVEN TEOFILO: Hello. My name is Steven Teofilo. I'm the Director of Engineering and Supply Chain at Krueger Transport Equipment. I head up the Engineering team, the purchasing warehousing teams, and also this facility we see here, which is our brand new, state of the art laser cutting facility.

A role that we would offer a student, to be honest, would be no different than what we'd offer any employee. We'd do that because we want students to get a real idea of what work means, you know? So when they do graduate, there's no surprises.

The types of work they could be doing as an engineer could be product design, working on our trailer designs, they could be working in manufacturing. They could be working here in our laser factory, programming our laser cutter on CNC programming. So the jobs are very varied and wide.

The real added value to our organisation is we're working with students to bring in that next generation of engineering. You know, we can't just stay as we are as engineers - technology changes. We need people that are up to date with the latest technology with the latest learnings in engineering. So it's really important for us to keep up to date and always have the latest generation of students, of thinking, of technology and know-how coming through the business.

So we've participated in a wide range of different programs with Swinburne, starting with the industry placement programs with the Bachelor of Engineering. We've also done work with the Masters of Professional Engineering, offering students final year projects as part of their degree, and we've also started to explore the opportunities to sponsor a PhD in the future, as well.

When a student comes on board, they're never by themselves. They've always got support, you know, from supervisors helping them with their day-to-day work. We think it's important to talk to students about how to shape their career, what to do after graduation, thinking about professional accreditation as an engineer, 'cause it's very important to do that. And, you know, so we try to take a mixed view of actual workplace guidance and also from a career point of view and help guide them and set them up for the future there as well.

I've been running this program for many years now. We've had a lot of great success. The programs have brought good talent into our organisation that we've benefited from, which helps us not just with people coming into the organisation, but with developing technical know-how. You know, the

University has a wealth of knowledge that we don't have, so it helps us lean into state-of-the-art thinking. So it's a great program to have.

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