



The FUTURE of LEARNING

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Wheels & Wings

Heavy Duty Dept. Fabricates Pedal Power Device



Pedal Power Hydraulics—An Interactive Teaching Device

Our heavy equipment program has been busy lately designing and fabricating this pedal powered hydraulic crane. Built primarily to show the power and versatility of hydraulics to the level 1 Heavy Duty Tech class, it will also do double duty as a method of attracting potential students at career fairs, trade shows and open houses. The parts that we needed to assemble the crane came from several places. Some were from heavy equipment hydraulic systems that we had around the lab. The base was from a display engine from the engine lab that was no longer needed. The bicycle was a worn out exercise bike from the work-out area in the gym (thanks again Paul). The remainder of the parts were sourced at the local hydraulic supplier. The crane was assembled over a two week period by Angelo Spano and Tim Allan with the help of a few students from the heavy duty co-op class. Thank you to Jack Yang and Hendrik Escandari for their help on both Fridays when they had no classes. The crane has had its first showing when we brought it to the OYAP (Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program) career fair last week. It was a success in the fact that it got students to stop and try their hand at the controls. They had to direct the crane to pick up a 35kg weight and transfer it to another area while pedaling the bike. They were also given the opportunity to try and lift the weight by hand. All agreed that the hydraulic system made this easier to accomplish. There was a constant lineup of students waiting their turn. The faculty at the event used this time to discuss the programs that the school offered and to hand out the Centennial College course catalogues. (Tim Allan)

Co-op Programs Update

Despite a difficult start due to the economy, 2009 was a good year for Co-op apprenticeship placements in the three SOT Co-op programs. Here is an overview of the success of each program.

Automotive Service Technician Co-op – Chrysler sponsored program

Eighteen (18) students originally sought a May to December work term. From this group, sixteen (16) found placements – nine with a Chrysler dealership and seven with other automotive companies. From the 16 successfully placed students, all except for two (who opted for a career change) are expected to pursue the final eight months of their Automotive Service Technician Co-op Chrysler Diploma program. Congratulations to this group for their hard work!

Truck and Coach Technician Co-op program

Similarly, only two co-op students out of thirteen were unable to find a placement to practice their trade. In this difficult economy, the Truck and Coach group proved to be very creative and flexible, accepting volunteer positions, part time opportunities and summer only placements. Although some students still require additional placement hours, their ability to acquire co-op experience in a difficult job market will most likely be recognized. Great work!

Heavy Duty Technician Co-op program

Another hard hit program that came out on top in terms of placements! Back in May, fourteen students qualified to seek the required co-op placement. From that group, eleven students were successfully employed in the Heavy Equipment industry, one worked in a non related area and two individuals lost contact with the college. The HDET Co-op students worked diligently and impressed positively their employers. One student was asked to stay on full time in his role, a few apprentices will return to work with their co-op employers upon graduation and some will work part time during their final eight months at the college. Congratulations on a job well done!

New co-op classes following the lead!

A larger number of co-op students will be seeking a May to December placement in 2010. The Heavy Duty and the Truck and Coach Co-op programs have doubled their enrollment numbers and the Automotive Service Technician Chrysler group is joined by a new co-op program sponsored by the Toronto Automobile Dealership Association (TADA). Following brief meetings with these new co-op classes, it is clear that they are quite eager and enthusiastic about their upcoming co-op terms – a good thing since employers are already calling! (Submitted by **Linda Lugli**)

Centennial Graduate Enjoying Career Success

As you are aware, we frequently get visits from former students. Many of our students find employment in distant locations. We recently received the following email from one of our graduates who is enjoying his career in Yellowknife.

Dear Sir,

It's an exciting moment in my life and I wish to share with you that I got my M1 License and I have joined another company up north here with King Air and Dach 7 so that I can take my M2 license as well.

With God's grace everything is coming along as desired and planned so I am really happy to move up here in Yellowknife.

Thanks always for your words of encouragement.

Kind regards,

Braj Tripathi

(2008 Aircraft Maintenance Program graduate)

View the SoT video (2 minutes) by clicking [here](#)