## **Trident Testimonials**

Matt Early Welder Since 2017

I like working at Trident, getting to build something that is important enough that it has to go through rigorous testing. The welds are x-rayed, it gets hydro statically tested – it is just cool to know that I am producing a product that is this important and crucial to the oil industry.

There is a lot of money to be made out there. If you don't want to sit in an office you can make a lot of money with your hands. You just have to be willing to work for it.

## Zach Wolfe Quality Control Inspector Since 2014

Heard about the position from our plant manager. He said there was a new company starting up with great opportunities and lots of room for growth. When the time came, I came on board. We started with five of us and now we are ninety. It is awesome to see the growth and opportunities and the work we are producing.

I started out on the pressure vessels side, loading up and building pressure vessels. When we started getting pipe in here I moved over to work in the pipe area and then another job opportunity came when they needed a quality control inspector. I put my name in the hat and here I am now, an inspector learning something new every day.

Best part of my job is I get to interact with everybody, every department of the company. Not only do I teach them things they may not know, they also teach me things that I do not know. From the assembly side to the completion side and paint, there are all these different steps that you don't get to see as a welder but do as a quality inspector. It makes every day fun because I am learning something new.

It is awesome being born and raised here in Gainesville. I know the community. When a new company is started like Trident it creates a lot of job opportunities, growth and expansion. This is great for our community.

If I had the opportunity to speak to high school students I would tell them to consider a career in manufacturing. Go in to work every day and give it your best, produce quality work. Be proud of what you're building, it has your name on it. Do the best you can do and you'll move up and prosper.

## Kari Hutcherson Vice President Since 2014

I believe what differentiates us from other companies and our competition is people and the culture we try to create here. From the beginning of the start-up of the company culture has been a big priority for us. We want a work environment where people feel respected, they are appreciated and at the same time they take pride and they care in what they do, what they build and I think that's reflected in the quality of our product.

I was born and raised in Gainesville, went to Texas Tech University and then had the opportunity to come back and work locally here in Gainesville. I am very proud of the opportunities that this company, Trident, has to offer to Gainesville and our surrounding communities regarding workforce and growth opportunities with this organization along with bringing a sense of community so we can all support one another.

I think I most enjoy the everyday challenges. It allows for opportunities to improve and most importantly I enjoy the people. I enjoy who I work with and it always come back to the people which is what creates the company.

I think I am most proud of the work environment and the culture that we have created here at our company along with the community and opportunities that allows people to work locally, be proud of what they do and proud of their sense of accomplishment.

## Chisam Hoedebeck Production Manager Since 2014

I went into welding because that is what my Dad started doing and I followed in his footsteps. I knew if I was a good welder it could open up doors for me down the road and it has. Welding has been a very good trade for me.

One of my previous jobs offered training and we got involved with North Central Texas College through a grant they were eligible for. A few of us ended up going through the program and I got to know the instructors. Some of them are local to Gainesville. My name got put in out there when they were looking for more instructors. Kenny Smith called me up and offered me a part time position. That is how I started initially. I was at NCTC for a good 2-3 years. The good thing about being an instructor there was being able to work with people and train people that work with me at Trident today.

Going through the program at NCTC has helped a lot of people that work for me because they are exposed to so many different things. They get repetition on different processes which is a lot of what we do. It is good exposure for them and it is local too.

I am from Gainesville, born and raised in Gainesville Texas. It is cool as a leader for Trident that I can see people join at an entry level and then work their way up to be at a high level at the company. It is rewarding to help people develop their talent and career. That's a big deal.

Welding has been a tremendous skill for me to be good at. It has opened very good doors over time.

My advice to a student or anyone looking into welding for a career is do it. There are new advances and technology, robotics and more coming out but the world is always going to need a human welder. It is a trade that once you learn and you will know it for the rest of your life and you can always make a good living doing it.

My favorite part about Trident is the people here. We are a pretty tight knit group from ownership to the guy that assembles parts on the floor. Everybody enjoys coming to work. When something needs to get done we do it as a team. It's been great working environment to be part of from day one.

I am proud of the team we have assembled at Trident. As an instructor at the NCTC to my leadership role today I have been able to recruit many of the people on our team. It is awesome to see how far they've come in such a short amount of time. Seeing our team grow and doing well in one of the best parts of my job.