## **Orteq Energy Technologies - Testimonials**

Jimmy Nickerson Since 2006 Engineer

I get to design and use the creative part of my brain and free thinking. It's pretty cool to watch something come up that's never existed before- just a concept. We take it into a real product. That's one of the neatest things about my job. I get to use my creative side in design and the critical thinking/analytical side in the engineering group.

I would tell students first off, if they don't know exactly what they want to do, that all the manufacturing in Cooke County have websites with a lot of information on them – what they do – what positions they are looking for. If they have any questions to contact them, talk to them. If they don't really know which direction they want to go in their career, find a counselor at their high school or local colleges and maybe get some direction for them. Find out what they are really good at, what their passion is. Pursue that and start asking questions of manufacturers. There is a lot of opportunity, a vast array of functions within manufacturing, for all types of personalities. There's just a lot of opportunities to pursue, especially in Cooke County.

I am in the same position I started in 12 years ago but I perform it a little differently mainly due to technology changes. Changes in technology are kind of hard to keep up with. You have to change quickly. You have to be able to adapt and then respond. So I perform the same function but in a little different manner. Things have definitely changed.

I feel blessed that I've been able to stay local all these years and that's one of the things I want to encourage the young people to do. The quality of life in Cooke County is very good. If you have a career opportunity in Cooke County I would definitely encourage you to pursue it.

The original company that I started with was a small, privately owned company and we were basically performing the similar functions as the company today. We build equipment. The industry allowed some growth. The owner was able to expand his operation. I made the move with the manufacturing side vs going with the new company that performed field service. I prefer the manufacturing side myself and remained with that part of the company.

## Ben Riddle Since 2013 Electronic Technician Lead

I like the atmosphere. I enjoy what I do too. It's fun. Probably the people make it the most enjoyable.

There's always new technology coming out and we're always learning new things every day. It's pretty exciting stuff. All the new technology that they come out with now is pretty awesome.

Well there's a lot of learning experiences for sure. If students coming out of school are really ambitious like me – want to know as much as they can, everything they can, then they will be successful. In manufacturing you can learn lots of different tricks in all different areas so you get an education by putting your hands on it. It's called experience and you can get that here or in any kind of manufacturing for that matter.

I encourage students to be ambitious. Try hard. You may not always get it right but try. That's really the most important thing. If you have ambition, if you have ambition to learn and if you want to meet and exceed employer expectations, you will be a success. It is important to know that you will always try no matter what.

Living in the community it work, I see a lot of people – get to know a lot more people working in area manufacturing. I almost feel like I know everyone around here.

## Humberto Mesa Since 2013 Warehouse Lead

I most enjoy getting to work with everyone, being challenged every day, and getting people what they need. It is rewarding getting people what they need and making it happen.

I like getting to see what the company has meant to the community. We've seen the company grow and see the programs it is involved it, like the Boys and Girls Club, also grow. I am proud to be a part of a company that is helping our community thrive, grow and be better.

Here is how I started at Orteq. I mowed the yard. Every day I helped out, bringing people materials, anything I could do to help. Eventually this led to more opportunity and today I am part of the warehouse team. Anything is possible when you work hard.