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Career Fair 2013

On a beautiful Indian summer day in early October, it's unusual to see TTU students dressed in suits and ties rather than T-shirts and flip-flops, but that was the case at TTU's Career Fair 2013.



Hundreds of well-dressed undergrads and grad students milled around in the Roaden University Center to network, distribute resumes and find out more about career opportunities. Well over 100 companies, many with a strong presence in Tennessee, were represented at this year's Career Fair, including such familiar names as Cummins, Snap-On, Mahle, Lennox, Bridgestone, Nissan, ADTRAN, Honda, Lockheed-Martin, Magneti Marelli, Denso, TVA and many more. Lipscomb University, Richmond Graduate University and several other schools were present as well, in hopes of attracting TTU graduates who want to further their careers.

Plenty of TTU College of Engineering grads returned to campus to represent their companies, such as Ava Pogue, a 2008 graduate who now serves as manufacturing manager at General Cable in Jackson, Tenn. "We've got several TTU graduates at our plant, as well as a few students working in co-op positions," said Pogue. "General Cable is interested in mechanical engineers, electrical engineers and chemical engineers for various roles. One program we have in place for new engineering employees is manufacturing training, with the engineer getting his or her feet wet at various jobs around the facility – process, design, quality control, etc. – while being groomed for a plant manager position. It's usually a ten-year process to advance to plant manager with General Cable."



General Cable makes cable products for automotive, electronic, datacom, broadcasting, fiber optic and many other needs. The multinational company has plants in 17 states, including a facility in Jackson, Tenn.

Cookeville's own Flowserve is hiring as well, taking resumes specifically for engineers with mechanical engineering and manufacturing and engineering technology degrees. With 31 engineering positions nationwide, Flowserve's Cookeville plant has openings specifically for design engineers who can make changes on an ongoing basis, as well as quality assurance engineers who work at a level that exceeds ISO standards.



Akebono Brake Products is a supplier of OEM brakes to GM, Ford, Chrysler, Nissan and several other manufacturers. TTU grad James Bowman works at Akebono's Clarksville plant as a senior manufacturing engineer. "I graduated in '90 and went on to earn my MBA in '92 and have been with Akebono for 20 years," said Bowman. "It's a great fit for mechanical engineers, and we have openings for wheel end product test engineers, CAE engineers, NVH engineers, friction material application engineers and test engineers for friction materials. We have several TTU grads in manufacturing, QC and production positions, as well as two current TTU students working in co-op positions."

In addition to Akebono's Clarksville plant, the company also has facilities in Elizabethtown and Glasgow, Kentucky and a design facility in the Detroit area.

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